FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON UK PROVOCATIONS

PY121928 Paris AFP in Spanish 1616 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Aug (AFP) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari has warned that this or any other Argentine Government will not give up its claims over the Malvinas Islands, reiterated that his country is willing to negotiate, and scored London for the incidents which took place last week in the South Atlantic involving two fishing boats and British aircraft and warships.

Regarding the note of protest which the Argentine representative submitted to the United Nations on Wednesday -- the second note of protest in 24 hours -- the Argentine foreign minister emphasized that it was caused by the British threat to resort to military actions if fishing boats insist on entering the exclusion zone established around the archipelago. The note submitted by Ambassador Carlos Muniz described the expulsion of the fishing boats as a provocative action and indicated that the maintenance of an exclusion zone was a serious obstacle.

Asked whether President Reynaldo Bignone would participate in the coming sessions of the UN General Assembly -- at which the Malvinas issue will be raised -- said that nothing has been decided as yet.

Speaking about the Argentine-Chilean conflict over the Beagle Channel, the Argentine foreign minister stated that his government thinks that negotiations within the framework of the pope's mediation is the appropriate channel for finding a solution.

ECONOMY MINISTER EXPLAINS BRITISH REMITTANCES

PY121835 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0340 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 11 Aug (TELAM) -- Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe tonight emphatically denied that the authorization given to British enterprises to send foreign exchange abroad responded to an IMF demand before granting a bridge loan to Argentina. Wehbe said that it was an Argentine decision in accordance with the country's legislation.

Asked if there was no contradiction in granting that authorization to British enterprises at a time when incidents are taking place in the South Atlantic, the minister replied that the incidents are not my problem, because I do not know what is happening over there. Furthermore, he explained, the British enterprises do not send out foreign exchange because they only have Argentine foreign bonds.

The economy minister met with journalists at the Ezeiza International Airport just before boarding the plane for New York, where he will formalize the bridge loan with IMF officials. Wehbe noted that the bridge loan contract will definitely be signed, adding that only unimportant details are pending. The important points have all been ironed out, although the signing of the contract is taking time, because 238 banks are involved and the opinion of all of them had to be accommodated.

Asked about the impossibility of curbing inflation to meet Argentina's commitment with the IMF, Wehbe said that the salary policy contributed to that, because that policy is conducted by the Labor Ministry, not by my ministry.

That policy should have been different in order to hold the annual inflation down to 160 percent.

Answering a question as to whether there were some differences between the Economy Ministry and the Labor Ministry, Wehbe said that there were none, but that there are always differences of opinion between two persons. If it was not so, one minister would be enough. The differences in opinion shed light on the questions, and we have to get used to that.

NAVY COMMANDER DISCUSSES DEMOCRACY, FALKLANDS

PY122306 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1158 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Text] Santa Cruz, 11 Aug (NA) -- Navy Commander in Chief Admiral Ruben Franco has reiterated the Navy's determination to implement "the return of democracy," condemned "moral decline," and stressed that "it is not possible to live, to preserve freedom, and to enact appropriate policies without either moral or political principles."

"Otherwise," he remarked, "the Malvinas, the Beagle, national unity, internal peace, constitutional governments, the defense of mankind, and of mankind's heritage and world peace would be nothing but a theory or a rhetorical formula."

"The force of law, power, patriotism, the defense of life, peace, responsibility, and justice are ethical principles that regulate human coexistence in the quest for the good, the highest moral value," he said.

Franco made the above remarks yesterday in the locality of Isla Pavon, on the Santa Cruz River close to the city of Santa Cruz, during a ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of Navy hero Commander Luis Piedrabuena.

The ceremony was attended by high-ranking Navy officers, Supreme Court member Cesar Black, government officials, V Army Corps Commander General Rodolfo Wehner and the governors of Patagonian provinces. The commemoration was also attended by Maritime Interests Secretary Vice Admiral Ciro Garcia and, as special guests, the descendants of Luis Piedrabuena.

In his speech, Franco noted that "the Navy opposes moral decline and the weakening of the common good and general welfare. Our objective is to defend and preserve the good, mankind's highest value, through a democratic government; that is why we fervently wish the return of democracy, which is the foundation of freedom and justice," he remarked. "We want," he said, "equality before the law without either preconditions or concessions."

He pointed out that under those conditions, "men will be loyal to themselves, will not betray either their own or their fellow men's security, and will remember that they belong to society and that this implies a voluntary decision to accept life in society. Through their decision to choose their own conduct," he stressed, "they will be defending ethical principles."

Franco then recalled that for Luis Piedrabuena and "for the leading figures of our history" to engage in politics "did not mean to struggle for power but for the welfare of their fellow countrymen." He said, "That is the only type of political life that we should build together, the only alternative that we should consider on the eve of the institutionalization of our nation, and the only one leading to our development and to the defense of human dignity."

He then noted that "this approach to political life will become really significant because it will be truly subordinated to ethical principles, thus serving society. This objective must be attained through a joint effort in defense of democracy, which will be strengthened by respect for the people and the institutions."

Adm Franco also said that the homage to Piedrabuena "is a strong testimony that is highly significant at a time when our legitimate sovereign rights are at stake. This ceremony may also serve as a recognition for the bitter periods during which he defended our territorial rights," the Navy commander added.

He said that "the brave heirs who began the 2 April deed were the honorable decendants of that courageous Navyman," remarking that Piedrabuena and other Argentine Navymen "set sail in the Antarctic seas much earlier than the British, who are the unpunished usurpers of our Malvinas Islands."

In his speech, Franco also said that "the Navy does not forget the sacrifices of its heroes nor the great battles it fought. The Navy," he noted, "learns from its history, defends its past, builds its present, which is its own life, and projects its future, because that is its duty."

"The Navy does not believe that events happen by chance," he went on. "The Navy believes in the attainment of intelligent and wise objectives, in the struggle for building the national unity, strengthening internal peace, justice and defense, promoting welfare and protecting freedom."

PRESIDENT PROMISES TO MEET ELECTORAL TIMETABLE

PY121743 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 11 Aug 83 p 5

[Excerpt] Argentine President General Reynaldo Bignone, retired, yesterday reiterated that the deadlines established for turning power over to the constitutional authorities will be respected and claimed to know nothing about a report that the Army had demanded that the period between the elections and the inauguration of the civilian government be shortened. Bignone denied that economic and social difficulties could lead to a decision to bring forward the date on which power would be turned over, as had been reported by certain news media, and termed the report "a typical journalistic concoction about which I found out today (meaning yesterday) when I read the newspapers."

Bignone made these remarks while visiting the Palermo livestock and industrial show. He confirmed that the commander in chief of the Army sent out a telegram to all units asking them to report to their superiors whenever a request from the courts in connection with the antisubversive struggle was received, but indicated that "this is a guideline which has been in effect for many years and supplies instructions on how to act when faced with court requests." He added that the contents of the commander in chief's radiogram "do not imply in any way whatsoever that the judiciary should be disobeyed, as certain persons have interpreted it."

OVER 500,000 WORKERS BEGIN STRIKES, PROTESTS

PY130321 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 11 Aug 83 p 11

[Text] Over 500,000 workers from half a dozen unions are currently either on strike or in a state of alert in demand of better wages, with protest rallies being staged almost daily in front of the economy and labour ministries to press their demands.

Nationwide strikes by banking clerks and court employees began yesterday, while social welfare and light and power workers rallied in front of the Labour Ministry and teachers announced work stoppages and "mobilization."

Some 180,000 banking clerks throughout the country began two-hour strikes yesterday, which they plan to repeat today, in demand of a starting salary of $a 3,000 and to reject a management offer of $a 2,300. [Monetary units as received]. Strike turnout was reportedly close to 100 percent. In the city of Buenos Aires only Banco Frances employees worked normally yesterday.

Court employees began a 48-hour strike which was "practically total" throughout the country, claimed Argentine Court Clerks Federation Secretary General Felipe Zabal'za.

Over 2,000 social welfare (APOPS)[as received] workers demonstrated in front of the Labour Ministry first and then went on to the Social Action Ministry to back their demand for a basic pay of $a 2,400. Meanwhile, light and power employees demanded a 40 percent wage hike as well as the rehiring of all laid off personnel and the immediate return of the union to its members.

Buenos Aires city telephone workers, who also want their union returned to them, also announced they will rally in front of the Labour Ministry tomorrow.

MOTHERS DEMAND BIGNONE EXPLAIN DETAINEE COMMENT

PY130205 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS 1250 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Aug (NA) -- In a note they delivered to Government House, the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo request President Reynaldo Bignone to explain a statement that was attributed to him according to which he said that in Argentina there are missing persons who are alive "but who cannot be presented before the public because they are not in the proper physical condition."

The note that was addressed to Bignone mentions a statement issued in this regard by Peronist leader Vicente Saadi which was published by the newspaper LA VOZ in its issue of 4 August.

Saadi asserted that during his recent visit to Argentina, Bignone told Ecuadorean Vice President Roldos Aguilera that the human rights issue was the "greatest obstacle" that the Argentine Military Government is confronting.

According to Saadi, Bignone told Roldos Aguilera that "there are persons who are alive but because of their physical condition, they cannot be presented in public."

In their note, the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo state that "since this statement has not been denied by General Bignone, this clearly and definitely proves that the Armed Forces did indeed detain our sons, but they repeatedly denied it for 7 years." Therefore, they requested that this statement "be reasserted before the Argentine people," since "it is inconceivable that after 7 years of illegal arrest, there are still doubts about freeing them."

COB LEADER SCORES U.S. AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT

PY121348 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 10 Aug 83 p 9

[Text] Regarding the statement made by the U.S. ambassador to Bolivia which appeared in a local publication, Juan Lechin Oquendo, [the Bolivian Labor Federation] COB Executive Secretary, stated: "I would like to ask the U.S. ambassador what happens in the United States when a businessman or a common citizen evades taxes or commits fraud against the state? I am sure he goes to jail."

He noted: "During Bolivia's last de facto government, many persons became rich through favoritism at the expense of the people. Many 'nouveau riches' have emerged in the last few years because they were granted special preferential loans. This is the way they suddenly were able to build large fortunes. Now, I ask myself: With whose money? This is why I believe the time has come for the people to recover their money; for those businessmen who obtained loans and bank endorsements to pay their debts in order to help overcome in some way the crisis the country is confronting."

The COB executive committee issued a communique yesterday in which it rejected the U.S. ambassador's statement regarding Bolivian domestic affairs. The communique, which is signed by Oscar Sanjines, COB secretary general; Victor Lima, organization secretary; Max Toro, conflict affairs secretary; and Eliseo Justiniano, housing affairs secretary, reads: "The objective of the statement made by the U.S. ambassador, who said that 'private enterprise is the best way to guarantee a democratic system,' is to exert pressure on the government so that it will not allow the COB to continue defending the democratic process."

"The statement threateningly insinuates that the U.S. Embassy will support any reactionary plot, which will undoubtedly have the support of the business sector, if the labor sector is allowed to cogovern. The COB rejects Ambassador Corr's interference in Bolivian domestic affairs, and it warns the Bolivian people about the political connotations of this statement."

It adds: "It has never been insinuated that labor comanagement in the large private business sector presupposes nationalization. On the contrary, it is the only way to make sure that the currency that the government economic sector grants to the private sector is really invested in production, and that the accounting books are precisely that and not a mere tool used to commit fraud against the country and workers. It is a means to stop tax evasion and avoid the flight of currency, which in the last 5 years has surpassed $1.2 billion.

PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN FEAR 'CLASS DICTATORSHIP'

PY121715 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1058 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Excerpt] La Paz, 11 Aug (EFE) -- Bolivian private businessmen today warned of political and labor maneuvers aimed against the democratic process and designed to set up a class dictatorship, according to a document in which the businessmen set forth their position on the political and economic crisis of the nation.

The businessmen believe that the government "has its back against the wall and will have to turn over power to a political minority of the Bolivian people."

They accuse the government of "exacerbating popular unrest through its lack of decisions during the 10 months it has been in power, a period which has been spent on going over the negative legacy of the past." The businessmen point out that national economic and political problems are gradually piling up "without respite or pause," because of the "illusory and incompetent handling of Bolivia's fate."

In their analysis of the political status quo, the businessmen believe that the groups which are exacerbating the crisis "are seeking to "build up social unrest and take over the leadership free from democratic restrictions and ties."

They concluded by saying that "most Bolivians voted for a nationalist and democratic program and not for the replacement of democracy by a class dictatorship."

The private businessmen's reaction is in response to President Hernan Siles Zuazo's intentions of sharing the government with the workers led by their unions. New frictions took place recently between businessmen and labor leaders, who accused each other of seeking to disrupt the democratic process.

COB Reacts to Charges

PY131754 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The Executive Board of the Bolivian Labor Federation, COB, has issued a document concerning the reaction of private businessmen to the possibility of workers participating in the government. According to the document, the insidious attacks against the top leader of the COB, Juan Lechin Oquendo, are also aimed at the Bolivian workers. Therefore, the COB wishes to state its total support of Lechin Oquendo and his stand.

Further on, the document, entitled "Against the Provocation of Private Enterprise," states that the economic and social plan which the COB has submitted for the government's consideration as a basic prerequisite for the workers' predominant participation in the national executive branch is aimed at solving the most pressing problems of Bolivian society.

The document also points out that the people are well aware that large sectors of private enterprise not only benefited from carelessly granted loans during the years of dictatorship but also used these funds for speculation, encouraged the flight of capital, and engaged in tax evasion as well as other things.

It would be sheer irresponsibility, according to the document, for the COB to allow the scarce resources of the national treasury to be used in the same way now, which is why the COB has proposed workers' control over private enterprises.

Concerning the reaction of the businessmen to the possibility of workers cogovernment, the COB indicates that private enterprise, especially the less worthy sectors such as the importers and financiers, are seeking to unleash social unrest by accusing the COB of plotting the demise of private enterprise.

The document adds that the COB plan contains none of the implications that private businessmen have attached to it. It is merely an emergency plan that complies with the provisions of the national Constitution. As to the measures aimed at increasing workers' control, the COB explains that they are aimed at making the state assume its share of the responsibility for the life, health, and security of the people.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH IMF CONCLUDED; OBJECTIVES SET

PY121618 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 12 Aug 83

[By Carlos Rodriguez from Brasilia]

[Text] The finance minister has reported that the negotiations between the IMF and Brazil have concluded and that the main objectives, which are for the most part known, have been set. The negotiations between the IMF and Brazil concluded after almost 6 hours of talks at the Planalto Palace during which the ministers in charge of economic affairs outlined the targets of the economic adjustment program which Brazil will have to carry out.

After stating that the IMF mission will return to Mexico on Friday, economist Thomas Reichmann announced that the current phase of negotiations had concluded:

[Begin recording] We have concluded our mission here. We have carried out the technical tasks assigned to us, and we have gathered all the information and made all the necessary plans. It is now up to the IMF and its director-manager to reach an agreement. [end recording]

Minister Ernane Galveas spoke about the main objectives that have been set:

[Begin recording] The objectives are basically the same as before -- to reduce the public debt by half in relation to prior guidelines, carry out a few matters in 1984, and seek a balance of payments compatible with the country's possibilities in terms of obtaining foreign loans. [end recording]

The IMF mission came to Brazil to carry out a technical evaluation of the nation's accounts. It has made decisions concerning subjects such as monetary, state and state enterprises' budgets, and reduction of the public debt and inflation. It must now draft a letter of intent which will include a program for economic adjustments. This draft will be analyzed by the IMF management. If it is approved, a new accord will be drafted. These steps will be made by October with the idea that the IMF will disburse the second portion, amounting to $411 million, of the loan granted to Brazil at the beginning of the year. These funds, which are currently frozen, will be disbursed once the new accord is approved.

FIGUEIREDO POSTPONES SEPTEMBER TRIP TO JAPAN

PY131836 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Relay from Brasilia by (Carlos Rodrigues)]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has issued a note advising that President Figueiredo's trip to Japan, scheduled for 15 September, has been postponed. The note issued by Itamaraty explains that the trip has been postponed because the president wants to participate in the drawing up of the agenda for his visit, aimed at increasing contacts between the two countries, something which he cannot do now since he is not conducting the presidency.

ANTIGOVERNMENT PROTESTS, CLASHES CONTINUE

Aftermath to 11 Aug Violence

PY121541 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Terrorist violence was unleashed in metropolitan Santiago and Valparaiso during the so-called day of peaceful protest. So far it is known that 10 people have died, that 50 people were wounded -- 15 by bullets -- and that nearly 350 people were arrested for violating Edict No 147. Among the most seriously wounded are members of the military, who were attacked with guns during the curfew. Among the people that died there are also two minors.

Generals Mendoza and Matthei conducted an on-sight inspection last night of the sectors in southern Santiago, where the clashes took place. Seven of the deaths occurred in metropolitan Santiago and three in the Fifth Region.

Groups of well-organized political agitators unleashed the criminal terrorist violenc during this new peaceful protest. The new interior minister called on the citizenry to avoid violence. Sergio Onofre Jarpa said that a chaotic climate is not conducive at all to a breakthrough in the political opening process.

Union leaders of various sectors voiced their satisfaction over how the new cabinet i made up. They hinted that the designation of a new cabinet will lead to a broader dialogue and a consenses among all Chilean citizens. Civil organizations throughout the country voiced their full support for Interior Minister Jarpa.

Incidents in Regional Cities

PY121557 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1433 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Santiago, 12 Aug (EFE) -- It has been reported that 4 of the 17 people wl died during the last day of protest in Chile were killed in clashes between civilians and uniformed personnel in Valparaiso, Chile's second largest city, 130 km from the capital.

Violent incidents were reported since early Thursday morning in Valparaiso and Concepcion, the third largest city located 500 km south of Santiago. Some 200 people were reported arrested in both cities. Fire bomb attacks, power outages, and clashes between civilians and military forces occurred in both cities.

There were also incidents and detainees in Rancagua and Chillan, to the south of Santiago, while in Temuco, 750 km south of the capital, 50 people were detained. In Punta Arenas, Chile's southernmost city, some 60 people, most of them youths, were detained during several incidents.

Zone Commander on Violence

PY121616 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1523 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 12 Aug (EFE) -- General Osvaldo Hernandez, chief of the state of emergency zone, today said that during yesterday's protest "the Armed Forces were violently attacked by subversives."

Hernandez pointed out that "our actions, which caused several deaths, were in reaction to what Armed Forces personnel were faced with."

Gen Hernandez, who was in charge of the military actions in the Chilean capital yesterday, early this morning briefed President Augusto Pinochet on the events which took place during the curfew in the capital. The meeting was also attended by the interior minister, the secretary general of government, and the director of the National Intelligence Center, General Humberto Gordon.

Speaking with journalists, Gen Hernandez said: "It is not a question of urban guerrillas, but of perfectly well-identified and isolated cells." During the curfew 13 persons were shot dead in Santiago and 4 more in Valparaiso, according to news reports which have not been officially confirmed.

New Incidents; Death Toll

PY122110 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2055 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 12 Aug (EFE) -- According to Radio Chilena, which belongs to the Catholic Church, the number of dead persons during the fourth day of national protest organized by the sector opposing the Chilean military regime has risen to 19. The death of one of the wounded persons in the Salvador Hospital, of Santiago, and the discovery of a body of a person in "La Pincoya" in Santiago add up to the official number of 17 dead.

The body, which was found behind a well, had a bullet wound. In niether of the cases was the identity of the dead revealed. New incidents were registered early this afternoon near the School of Medicine of the University of Chile when policemen hurled tear gas bombs against a group of student demonstrators of that school.

Government Updates Casualty List

PY122246 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2122 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 12 Aug (EFE) -- Alfonso Marquez de la Plata, minister secretary general of the government, today disclosed the official total of 17 dead and 62 wounded as a consequence of the day of protest held yesterday against General Pinochet's government.

De la Plata released the names of the 14 persons who died in Santiago and the 3 who died in the fifth region, which comprises Valparaiso and Vina del Mar.

The persons who died in Santiago are: Ines Manriquez Arroyo, Juan Carlos Salazar Arrue, Benedicto Antonio Gallego Saval, Estanislao Morales Sanhueza, Jorge Fuentes Lagos, Jaime Caceres Morales, Clara Teresa Gomez Aguirre, Marta del Carmen Cano Vidal, Marta Evelina Ayala Henriquez, Fabian Onofre Cortez Pino, Marcela Angelica Marchant Vivar, Juan Enemia Asemia Munoz, and an unidentified young man. [sentence as heard]

Lina del Carmen Garay and Eliseo Pizarro Lopez died in Valparaiso and the boy Jaime Rojas Rojas in Vina del Mar as the result of a package bomb explosion. The minister stated that "this is proof of the moral cowardice of those who are responsible for these acts because they have murdered a perfectly innocent person with this type of device."

Regarding the wounded persons, De la Plata stated that there were 53 civilians and 9 members of the armed and security forces. The minister said that the participation of the outlawed Communist Party and other sectors is being investigated.

Marques de la Plata added that a few days before the so-called peaceful protest many materials teaching how to prepare homemade bombs and other fighting tactics were found. He also noted that snipers had used firearms against policemen.

Regarding the causes of death, he said that only in the case of Jaime Ignacio Rojas was the cause clear, because an explosive device went off in his hands. About the other cases, the minister said that "their relation to the clashes has to be looked into. The participation of snipers has to be considered, because very likely as policemen fired back at them innocent victims may have been killed."

Referring to those arrested, he said that 28 are being held by the Interior Ministry, and others who were arrested during clashes with the Armed Forces were at the disposal of the Military Court, but he did not give numbers. Journalists said that 1,200 may have been arrested, among them university students and professionals, but many of them were released before curfew time, as were many who, for different reasons, violated the ban on staying out on the streets after 1830.

Junta Member Urges Dialogue

PY122247 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2137 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile 12 Aug (EFE) -- General Fernando Matthei, commander of the Chilean Air Force [FACH] and member of the Government Junta, today said that "the time has come to arrive at an understanding with the political parties."

Speaking to journalists at the Diego Portales Building, Matthei noted that "those genuinely democratic sectors will soon be able to express their ideas as political parties even though they may not share the government's ideas. But this is better than doing things through private companies, or soccer clubs." The FACH commander added that "although the date established to achieve full democracy is 1989, this does not mean that political parties and electoral registration cannot start their activities before this date."

General Matthei noted that "political parties must be operating as organized bodies at the latest by 1989. The fact that they will be organized ahead of time does not mean that we are changing the deadlines."

The junta member also said that yesterday, during the fourth national day of protest in which 17 people were killed and 62 were injured, he toured the city twice, he overflew the city once, and then he inspected the situation by car. According to General Matthei, the sectors he toured "were calm and there was no one on the streets during the curfew. Only children were out when we withdrew from the area."

The FACH commander added that "there were no clashes in the neighborhoods I visited, so our forces did not have to use their guns. People did not defend any barricades or challenge our personnel; our men were not attacked. However, I cannot speak about other sectors which I did not visit."

General Matthei noted that he had also talked "with other officers who toured the neighborhoods in question and that their unanimous conclusion was that they had not been attacked or challenged at any time." General Matthei added that "our sector was well lighted so there was no need to use searchlights. We also had helicopters equipped with flares, but none were used."

Demonstrations Continue 12 Aug

PY130425 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0400 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 12 Aug (EFE) -- One person was killed in the Maipu neighborhood after new confrontations tonight, according to Radio Chilena. The report has not been officially confirmed. According to the report, the dead person is Roberto Romero Reyes, who was killed by a bullet.

Today the same radio station reported the possible death of two other people whose identifications were not available. It also announced that a woman named Florencia Monteiro was shot in the back twice in Pudahuel and that she was taken to a hospital for surgery.

As night fell the disturbances increased in the suburban areas of La Victoria, La Laguna, Maipu, Lo Hermida, Vicuna Mackena, and in the southern sector of the capital. In various areas, barricades were set up and tires set on fire to prevent traffic and the movement of police vehicles.

Tire punturing devises called "Miguelitos," with four nails with one always sticking up to punture tires, were also thrown onto the streets.

According to Radio Cooperativa and Radio Chilena, Carabineros acted violently, throwing not only tear gas cannisters at groups of people and houses but also throwing stones with slings at house windows. The uniformed police made an unspecified number of arrests, both in the streets and in the homes they raided.

Father Pierre Dubois, parson of La Victoria Church, reported to the bishopric that the Carabineros had thrown stones at his church. This afternoon, there were also clashes between Carabineros and students in the area near the university campus, but there were no signs that the Army was present.

In some districts light tanks were seen patrolling the streets, in addition to troop transport vehicles.

In the afternoon, official sources still maintained that the number of dead was 17 during the clashes which took place yesterday, Thursday, 14 of whom died in the capital and 3 in the Valparaiso-Cina del Mar area. The official figure of 62 people wounded is also maintained, although some media say that there are over 100, of whom some are in very serious condition.

At 0300 GMT the clashes continued in the suburban zones of Santiago, at which time a group of foreign newsmen, who had taken refuge for several hours in San Cayetano Parish Church in the area of La Legua, finally got through the police cordon and returned to their hotels. Urban traffic has become almost unavailable, particularly on the lines to the districts where the clashes continue.

Three Die in Overnight Clashes

PY131617 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Three deaths were registered as a consequence of the incidents which took place in the capital last night. The victims were identified as 28-year-old Ruben Fuentes Cortes, 14-year-old Sandra Henriquez, and a man who was initially identified as (Perez). Fuentes Cortes died at the corner of (Blanco Encalada) and (Victoria) Streets in Maipu neighborhood during a clash between the police and a group of agitators who had erected some barricades and caused riots in that sector.

The girl, Sandra Henriquez, died while receiving medical assistance at First Aid Post No 3 after being shot in (San Francisco) [words indistinct].

The third death, still not identified, was mortally wounded in the (Callejon de Ovalle) sector from where he was transported to El Salvador hospital where he died. It was initially stated that this person's surname allegedly was (Perez).

Another 20 persons were wounded during riots which took place in other sectors of the capital. The riots were repressed by members of the Carabineros at approximately 2000 and 2300 when they were ordered to mobilize in order to control the situation. Several stores on the outskirts of the capital were looted by demonstrators. While they were fleeing, a group of unidentified persons opened fire on an ambulance on Ferrocarril Street in the Santiago commune.

The remaining agitators had a shootout with members of the security forces while they were setting up barricades in various sectors of [names indistinct]. Vehicles passing through the occupied areas were charged a toll of either money or fuel. Drivers who refused to pay were threatened with having their vehicles set on fire. At the same time, the agitators hurled stones and torches at moving vehicles, destroying windshields.

Two Subversives Arrested

PY131711 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Two subversives were arrested in Vina del Mar after intensive shootouts. During the arrest members of the security forces also discovered a large arsenal of revolvers and boxes of ammonia gelatin. The arrested persons, identified as (Anibal Alfredo Flores Barrera) and (Alberto Nunez Baraona), resisted arrest in a gun battle with police.

It was also disclosed that they actively participated in the riots and looting carried out in the fifth region. The two subversives will be placed at the disposal of the Valparaiso military prosecutor.

Official Charges 'Foreign' Influence

PY131723 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpt] (Juan Jaime Diaz), president of the Catholic University of Chile Students' Federation, has said that the students want peace and tranquility.

He added that the demonstrations held at the university were organized by elements foreign to the university and that they also orchestrated riots at the University of Chile. Diaz said that it is intended to show a distorted image of Chilean students.

AFP Reports 23 Now Dead

PY131410 Paris AFP in Spanish 1355 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 13 Aug (AFP) -- According to information supplied by unofficial sources today, the death toll of the fourth national day of protest against General Augusto Pinochet's regime is now 23.

Radio Cooperativa of Santiago reported that three more persons died over the last few hours after the violent incidents which took place on Friday evening in various suburban areas of Santiago where the residents set up barricades, burned tires, and were shot at by military and police forces.

Death Toll Reported 24

PY132205 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Relay from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa and Ministry Secretary General of the Government Alfonso Marquez de la Plata had a busy agenda this morning.

During a press conference held at La Moneda Palace, Marquez de la Plata, in referring to the incidents which took place during the past few days, disclosed that between 0945 [as heard] yesterday and 0715 today, seven persons died as a consequence of the riots. Therefore, the number of deaths since Thursday night totals 24. Minister Marquez de la Plata added that since last night 12 persons have been wounded.

The government authority pointed out that these events make it clear that professional agitators took part in the demonstrations. He said that these agitators even attacked members of the security forces.

In part of the conference, Marquez de la Plata stated: [Begin Marquez recording] I believe that this once again proves that it is not the people who are causing the damage; it is those groups of professional agitators [word indistinct] in some areas are promoting disorder and in some cases they even set barricades up, and then they inform the Carabineros about the existence of such barricades and when the police arrive, the agitators attack them. [end recording]

Regime Aims To Prevent 'Civil War'

PY132330 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2235 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 13 Aug (EFE) -- While the interior minister asserted that the government's measures are aimed at preventing a civil war in Chile, clashes continued after the fourth national day of protest. The new interior minister, Sergio Onofre Jarpa Reyes; ambassador to Argentina until 10 days ago, said today after visiting Santiago Archbishop Monsignor Juan Francisco Fresno that "the measures the government is taking are aimed at preventing a civil war."

In the streets, however, new incidents took place this afternoon, when the people attending various funerals of victims of the fourth day of protest against the military regime clashed with Carabineros forces. The police used tear gas to disperse the demonstration attempts that were made during the transfer of the remains of Jorge Antonio Fuentes and Eliana Teresa Lagos to the Southern Metropolitan cemetery, after which the confrontations continued in the suburban district of Jose Maria Caro.

There were other incidents at the funeral of Yolanda Campos in the Pudahuel area, and at the funeral of Juan Eduardo Guarda Saez, the Carabineros, using antiriot equipment, tried to stop the people from entering the church of La Pincoya. Other clashes took place on the Panamerican Highway as barricades were set up to stop traffic, according to a report by Radio Cooperativa. Military personnel responded at the scene.

After Jarpa Reyes' visit to Archbishop Fresno, the minister of General Augusto Pinochet's new government said that "the worst that could happen to the country would be that we find ourselves involved in a civil war."

The Interior Minister expressed the wish that "all of us should be aware of what this means and carry on our business in peace and harmony."

Jarpa Reyes also said that the government is trying to convince the citizenry of "the need to put an end to violence without the presence of the Armed Forces in all sectors."

Commenting on his meeting with the archbishop, Sergio Onofre Jarpa Reyes admitted that he had received some information "which will be very useful for me in discharging my duties and in managing the situation. I also asked Monsignor Fresno to keep assisting me with his advice." The minister added that the information referred to the latest events which have occurred in the country "which all Chileans deeply deplore."

He also said that all reports related to the latest disturbances, which caused the death of more than 20 people, are going to be investigated.

The official list of victims from the fourth day of national protest disclosed by the minister secretary general of the government shows that 24 people have died; but press and radio sources say 28 are dead.

According to these unofficial reports, 26 people died from bullet wounds, one from a homemade bomb explosion, and another from beatings during an attack.

During the meeting between the minister and the Santiago archbishop, the Vicariate of Solidarity Juan de Castro, who attended the meeting, recommended much serenity and maturity to the people and the Armed Forces, to focus the country's future.

Demonstrators Block Railroad

PY140252 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0052 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 13 Aug (EFE) -- Incidents in the southeastern part of the capital tonight, where the populations of Jose Maria Caro and Lo Valledor are located, paralyzed railroad traffic between Santiago and southern Chile.

Radio Cooperativa reported that groups of people from this area, one of the poorest in the city, occupied sections of the railroad tracks, throwing sharp objects against the cars, while new confrontations with Carabineros were taking place. Because of these disturbances, the departure of trains was suspended for the night.

It was reported that trains from southern Chile may have to end their runs short of the capital.

'Tense Quiet' Reported 14 Aug

PY140406 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0326 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 13 Aug (EFE) -- A total of nine victims in the fourth national day of protest against the government of President Augusto Pinochet were buried today in Santiago, in the midst of protests and confrontations between the mourners and the Carabineros police.

The most serious incidents took place when, in the metropolitan cemetery, the authorities would not allow the mourners of Jorge Antonio Fuentes and Eliana Teresa Lagos, both 20-year-olds, to enter the cemetery, Most of the mourners were neighbors from the suburban neighborhood of Jose Maria Caro.

Alleging that the funeral cortage had arrived after closing time, the authorities first prevented entrance, but then funeral workers were allowed to enter to bury the deceased.

Finally entrance was allowed, but only to family members. Meanwhile, outside the cemetery gates a thousand persons confronted Carabineros forces, who responded by throwing teargas grenades. The incidents continued until nightfall in the neighborhood of the protest victims.

There were also incidents during the transfer to the general cemetery of the remains of Fabrian Onofre Cortes, Marta Cano Vidal, Juan Carlos Salazar Arrue, Juan Asema Munoz, Juan Carlos Guarda, and Maria Manriquez Araya, services for whom took place throughout the day starting from 1900 GMT.

Another incident took place during the funeral for Yolanda Campos, in the town of Pudahuel. In all these incidents, the Carabineros forces used teargas grenades to disperse the crowds who attacked the officers with stones.

In the midst of tension, but with greater serenity, the funeral of Juan Carlos Caceres Morales, a child of only 12, was observed. The funeral was attended by classmates from his elementary school who carried posters that said, among other things, "How many are going to die?"

In Valparaiso, without incident, three persons who died on the first day of this protest, Thursday, were also buried. Two died from gunshot wounds and a child died when he picked up a package bomb.

Official sources continue to give the number 24 as the total dead -- 17 from Thursday night and 7 from Friday -- but radio broadcasts count 27 in Santiago and Valparaiso, with one in Concepcion who died from a beating received during a confrontation.

After 0200 GMT, all radio stations reported a "tense quiet" throughout the outskirts of the Chilean capital.

LEIGH GIVES PINOCHET-ONOFRE 'MARRIAGE' TWO MONTHS

PY130306 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Aug 83 p 13

[By correspondent Florencia Varas]

[Excerpt] Santiago -- President Augusto Pinochet's cabinet, headed by the civilian Sergio Onofre Jarpa, will not last more than 2 months. This was stated to O GLOBO by Brigadier General Gustavo Leigh, former Chilean Air Force commander and one of the leaders of the 1973 military coup that ousted Salvador Allende.

According to Leigh, the new government, which yesterday was subject to trial when it has to repress the day of protest organized by the opposition, the "marriage" between Pinochet and Jarpa will not last long and "soon, very soon, they will start throwing the plates at each other." The former Air Force commander stated that Pinochet is a person who does not accept suggestions and wants to die in power. Jarpa, who is a clever politician, will try to handle him, but I doubt that he will be successful.

Leigh also pointed out that the appointment of a civilian to lead the government is not important, and concluded by stating: "The floor is collapsing under the great dictator's feet. Everyone is aware of this but him. He does not realize it; he lives in another world, removed from reality. I do not believe there will be a political opening as long as Pinochet is in the government.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION REQUESTS UN OBSERVER

PY132206 Paris AFP in Spanish 1756 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Santiago, 13 Aug (AFP) -- It has been reported that the Chilean Human Rights Commission today asked for the urgent dispatch of a special UN observer to Chile to investigate the acts of violence that have taken place in the last 48 hours and left a death toll of 24 people, according to official figures.

The commission, presided over by attorney Maximo Pacheco, sent a telegram to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, reporting the brutal repression by the Armed Forces and government against the population, who held a peaceful protest. It also states that more than 1,500 have been detained thus far.

REACTIONS TO WEEKEND PROTEST ACTIONS REPORTED

PRODEN Scores Regime

PY130019 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1916 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Santiago, 12 Aug (EFE) -- Today spokesmen of the PRODEN (National Development Project), of the opposition, defied the government by "repudiating its violent, provocative, and irrational attitudes" and have summoned a fifth day of protest "to be held much earlier than the 11th of September."

Social Democrat Diego Portales, secretary of the PRODEN, read an official declaration issued by this organization, comprising politicians of all leanings, except communists, which states that "only the immediate solution of the political crisis, through a deep-rooted change, will be able to stop the Chileans' massive protest."

The declaration then states that "it is up to the Armed Forces only to achieve the immediate return to democracy, the only way to satisfy our peoples' desires." PRODEN approved the idea of a new referendum, because "we believe that an honest step would be for the government to acknowledge it is the minority, and for that we request that the people be freely summoned to decide on their future."

PRODEN voiced its repudiation of "incited violence" and its sorrow at the dead and wounded, and announced that it would submit that very day a request to the court of justice for the appointment of an attorney to carry out investigations regarding the cas s which resulted in casualties -- dead and wounded -- until they find those responsible.

Jorge Lavanderos, president of PRODEN, denounced the presence of 18,000 soldiers who occupied "an open and disarmed city as if it were a battlefield, disregarding dead and wounded, age or sex, or the fact that the citizens were peacefully at home."

Lavanderos added that "the government wants to abolish the last traces of dissident opinion" and stated that he did not know what was intended by the "engaging of the Army in such an unpleasant task as that of firing against disarmed Chilean citizens."

Lavanderos also held the government responsible for the serious incidents which took place, stating that "those who are ready for war are not ready to govern or hold dialogue."

Egelberto Frias, another PRODEN leader, stated that the 1980 plebiscite, in which 67 percent of the Chileans had approved the text of the Constitution currently in force, had lost validity, and that this was demonstrated by the protests. Therefore, he supported the idea of a new plebiscite, "so that the people may express their will as the only means to achieve peace."

Carlos Dupre, PRODEN vice president and member of the Christian Democratic Party, termed as extremely serious "the irrational force with which the members of the security forces posted on the streets had acted" and added that "the people must understand that the government represents chaos and anarchy; therefore, it is time to change governments."

PRODEN considers that the tragic incidents which took place yesterday are "the government's responsibility," and pointed out that, as was announced in the Democratic Alliance's charter and by-laws, a concrete democratization plan, as a real alternative, endorsed by the National Party, the Social Democratic, Radical Socialist, and Christian Democratic Parties will be proposed.

PRODEN also criticized new Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa, stating that "he cannot term the opposition of being exhibitionist because that is not the way of inviting dialogue," but that, however, it will accept dialogue "if the deadlines for a change are short and the offer is worthy."

Socialists Term Pinochet 'Fiasco'

PY131656 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0929 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Moscow, 13 Aug (EFE) -- Clodomiro Almeyda, top leader of the Chilean Socialist Party, said today in an interview granted to the Soviet television network that "the Chilean people have once more shown the strength of their democratic aspirations."

In an evaluation of the recently concluded national protest day in Chile, Almeyda emphasized that the population "demands the end of the dictatorship as well as the restoration of democracy." He added: "The protest day has shown the degree of isolation of Pinochet and his antipopular regime, which now has the characteristics of a national fiasco: mass unemployment, privations, and the impoverishment of even broader sectors of society."

Archbishop Urges Understanding

PY131739 Paris AFP in Spanish 1930 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Santiago, 12 Aug (AFP) -- Santiago Archbishop Juan Francisco Fresno today urged all Chileans to seek an agreement in order to stop the escalation of violence that is affecting the country.

Fresno, who has headed the Chilean Catholic Church since June, condemned the fact that 17 people were killed in Santiago and Valparaiso during a day of protest against the military regime headed by President Augusto Pinochet.

Fresno noted: I categorically repudiate all violence,regardless of source, and in my role as archbishop and also as a Chilean citizen, I must note that the escalation of violence cannot be tolerated. He added: With respect and humility, I urge all Chileans, without distinction, to seek an agreement so that we may live in peace; so that goodness, truth, and the justice of God may prevail; and so that our people may have the right to make demands.

Fresno noted: These incidents are painful and sad since they are the result of a protest carried out to defend the inherent rights and ideas that all men have the right to express.

HAVANA REPORTS ON PROTEST DAY, AFTERMATH

Violent Repression Noted

PA142235 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Chilean police forces used armored personnel carriers, firearms, and tear gas canisters in an attack on hundreds of demonstrators in Santiago who continued to demand the resignation of General Augusto Pinochet, head of the fascist regime, until the early hours of this morning.

Reports say that the repressive forces made numerous arrests during yesterday's clashes and that an undetermined number of people were shot. A total of 23 dead, more than 100 shot and wounded, and 1,000 arrested were the toll of the police and military repression of the fourth national protest staged throughout Chile on Thursday.

The protests on Friday, which continued until 0300 in some towns, were carried out in the districts of La Legua, Floermida, La Victoria, Villa Portales, Santa Julia, Villas Los Presidentes, Pudahuel, Maipu, and Vicuna Mackenna.

According to witnesses, pistol shots and machinegun fire were heard, while Carabinero helicopters overflew the areas of skirmishes, pinpointing the protesters with powerful spotlights. Radio Chilena and Radio Cooperativa said that the police forces threw tear gas bombs inside homes, and used slingshots to hurl rocks at windows in poorer neighborhoods.

According to news dispatches, Carabineros also brutally repressed student protests that continued yesterday near the university campus in Santiago.

Outside Support Seen

PA132329 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] At least 17 dead, including 3 children, some 100 injured, and more than 500 arrested is the result thus far of the violent manner in which security forces repressed demonstrators who participated in the fourth day of national protest in Chile on Thursday.

Despite severe restrictions, including a curfew, groups of protesters built barricades and lit bonfires in several neighborhoods of the Chilean capital, but they were repressed by army patrols who fired on them.

The most serious incidents during the protest took place in Victoria, a working-class district in the southern part of Santiago.

Pierre Dubois, a parish priest, reported that he had to take three individuals who had been shot by the police to the hospital. He said that the police threw tear gas and rocks at residents' homes.

Violent clashes between policemen and students took place in Valparaiso, Concepcion, and Punta Arenas. By express order of regime chief General Augusto Pinochet, 18,000 heavily armed soldiers were patrolling the streets of Santiago from the day before the protest. Such a display has not been seen since the days of the bloody coup d'etat against President Salvador Allende.

Meanwhile, it has been learned that members of the newly formed Democratic Alliance have demanded Pinochet's resignation and the establishment of a government that will reinstitute democracy in the country. The Democratic Alliance is comprised of some Christian Democrats, Social Democrats, Radicals, and Socialists.

A large group of Bolivian workers staged a protest today in front of the Chilean Consulate General in La Paz against the military regime's violent repression of the widespread pro-democracy movement in Chile.

The powerful Bolivian Labor Federation, which organized the protest, noted in a communique the great importance of the Chilean people's struggle to the Latin American liberation movement.

More than 200 people also staged a demonstration of solidarity with the Chilean people's national protest on Thursday in Quito, Ecuador, by burining an effigy of dictator Augusto Pinochet. The statements made in front of the Chilean diplomatic headquarters provoked no clashes with the police, who kept a watch on the protesters.

Meanwhile, in Havana, the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions expressed its complete support for the Chilean working class and people, who staged their fourth national protest day yesterday.

CUBAN-AMERICAN LAWYER'S CHARGES DENIED

PY142222 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA In Spanish 4 Aug 83 p 5

[Text] The report by attorney Miguel Orta, of Cuban origin, on his detention in Santiago for espionage activities "is not truthful," a high Foreign Ministry source said yesterday in response to a news agency report, datelined Miami, last Tuesday.

The spokesman said: "The report given by Mr Miguel Orta in Miami is not truthful and it has been denied by Chilean officials in Washington."

The lawyer, who spent his vacation in Chile last week, reportedly skiing in Portillo, stated that he was undressed in subzero temperatures, tortured, and accused of being a Cuban spy.

According to his report, soldiers detained him for taking photographs of military maneuvers, and because he was born in Cuba. He stated that on the afternoon before leaving Chile, he had decided to make a trip to the countryside around Santiago and took the opportunity to take a few pictures of the mountains. The military police reportedly detained him, saying: "You must not take any photos."

He was then put into a car at gunpoint and interrogated in a room where the temperature was below zero. At the same time, he was accused of being a Cuban spy.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday replied to these accusations, saying that Mr Orta was at Peldehue on 27 July, taking photographs of military installations and units.

Since he had been seen twice that same day traveling between Peldehue and Los Andes under suspicious circumstances, and was seen taking photographs, he was held for 3 hours while the film he took was developed.

The official source said: "After they were developed, he was released, and he signed a statement to the effect that he had been treated correctly."

He left Chilean territory the next day without making any claims, and only after arriving in Miami did he submit his charges which do not accord with the facts.

Orta also said in Miami that he had written letters to Representative William Lehman and Senator Lawton Chiles, to the State Department in Washington, and to Amnesty International, demanding a full investigation of his case.

RELIABLE SOURCES REPORT CABINET CHANGES

PY121824 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 1630 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Reliable sources report that President Alfredo Stroessner has offered the Ministries of Defense, Foreign Affairs, and Justice and Labor to Major General German Martinez, Dr Carlos A. Saldivar, and Dr J. Eugenio Jacquet, respectively, and the post of president of the Supreme Court to Dr Luis Maria Argana.

The same sources revealed that the heads of these ministries will end their duties on 15 August 1983, and that after that date they will discharge their duties at the national congress.

FINANCE MINISTRY TO ISSUE INTERNAL DEBT BONDS

PY121313 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 11 Aug 83 p 11

[Excerpts] The Finance Ministry will issue bonds through the Central Bank (BCP) to cover this year's budget deficit. The bill authorizing the floating of internal debt bonds was submitted to the Chamber of Deputies yesterday by Finance Minister Cesar Barrientos. According to an official source, this procedure has been adopted since BCP advances have been insufficient to cover the treasury's needs and because such advances are subject to short-term amortizations.

The internal debt bonds will mature in 5 years, according to an authoritative government source, who, however, did not reveal the total value of the bonds to be issued nor the interest rate to be paid on them. It is estimated that the interest rate will be no more than 8 percent a year.

The need to have sufficient funds to meet state obligations, which are becoming more critical due to the decline in fiscal revenues, has forced the Finance Ministry to resort to the issuance of these internal debt bonds, according to the ministry official contacted by this newspaper.

EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE DISAGREE OVER ECONOMIC POLICY

PY121447 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2201 GMT 11 Aug 83

[By Carlos Lareau]

[Excerpts] Lima, 11 Aug (EFE) -- President Belaunde Terry had to intervene in the dispute between the second vice president of the Peruvian Government and the economy minister which was also the cause of several incidents in the Chamber of Deputies.

On Monday, the economy minister reasserted that he would not establish a price control on staples or utilities, but a little later the second vice president of the government and secretary general of the Popular Action [AP] Party, the ruling party, submitted a draft law proposing a freeze on the prices of gas, electricity, and gasoline, and a price control on other products.

In view of the challenge to the policy outlined by the Economy Ministry, Economy Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor yesterday submitted his resignation to President Fernando Belaunde Terry. The unexpected resignation was categorically rejected by Belaunde Terry, who reasserted his confidence in the economy minister and who rejected the draft law promoted by Javier Alva Orlandini, the AP secretary general who is making every effort to achieve complete party control.

However, it will take some time to evaluate the long-term consequences of this dispute within the government, within the ruling party, and between the executive and legislative branches. Nevertheless, the recent incidents show that there are serious disagreements and internal struggles at the top level of the Peruvian political system. Moreover, these disagreements have arisen 3 months after the holding of municipal elections, which more and more are regarded as a plebiscite on government policies rather than as a simple renewal of local officials.

EDUCATION MINISTER RESIGNS; LEGUIA APPOINTED

PY131357 Paris AFP in Spanish 1925 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Lima, 12 Aug (AFP) -- It was officially reported today that Education Minister Jose Benavides has submitted his resignation and that Joaquin Leguia has been appointed to replace him.

Although the reasons that led to Benavides' resignation were not announced, it was learned that it came about as a result of disagreements with Popular Action (AP) Party legislators. Benavides had been education minister since 4 February 1981.

Benavides had proposed Alberto Espantoso, president of the Peruvian Soccer Federation, to be chief of the Peruvian Sports Institute (IPD). The appointment was approved by President Belaunde Terry through a supreme decree. Espantoso was to replace Victor Magaro, who had resigned. However, a group of AP senators questioned Espantoso's appointment and they implied that if he was confirmed they would not approve the sports draft law that is in the Chamber of Deputies. Instead, they supported the appointment of Luis Huarcaya, former president of the Athletics Federation. Espantoso refused to be sworn in and announced that he would refuse to hold any leading position in the sports field.

It was learned that Benavides believed that the legislators were interfering in his duties since the IPD is under the Education Ministry.

MATERIALS RELATED TO REAGAN-DE LA MADRID MEETING

De la Madrid Interview

PA141945 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 13 Aug 83 p 6

["Transcription" of interview granted by Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid to U.S. NBC commentator Bryant Gumble; no date given]

[Text] [Question] Regarding continuing with the economic activities that you have been carrying out with relative success, do you believe you will receive more trade loans before the year is over?

[Answer] No, I believe that we will stay within the limits of foreign debt that we set as a goal in December last year; that is, we will obtain only $5 billion net. Taken by itself, this figure seems high. However, if we take into account the rate at which the country was becoming indebted in the past, this is a substantial decrease in our foreign debt. We are doing well as far as exports are concerned, and we have decreased our imports. So far this year, we have decreased our imports by about 57 percent. It is not that we do not like to import -- we need imports in order to advance. However, we must stay within our possibilities. That is why I have stressed that we must convince our main trading partners, especially the United States, to give us greater access to their markets. If the United States wants to sell more to us, it must also buy more from us. If not, we cannot continue incurring debts to cover our trade deficit.

[Question] Another topic that I would like to discuss concerns undocumented workers in the United States. The Simpson-Mazzoli bill has been sent to the U.S. Congress for approval. It will be voted on in the autumn. Ambassador Gavin is in favor of this bill. How do you feel about this bill, which actually makes the employers responsible for the undocumented workers?

[Answer] In the first place, I admit that it is the sovereign right of the United States to regulate its immigrants. Mexico has always pointed out that the immigration situation between our two countries is a result of structural economic factors. The United States needs to import manpower for certain activities. There have not been enough jobs in Mexico and, therefore, people seek employment in the United States. I believe that we have to face the problem. We have always asked that our countrymen's human and labor rights be respected, because it is our responsibility to look after our citizens. I will not comment on the Simpson-Mazzoli bill, because it is the exclusive responsibility of the U.S. Congress.

[Question] Mr President, do you believe that it is Mexico's responsibility to curb the flow of undocumented workers to the United States?

[Answer] Yes, there is a general responsibility, which is the economic and social policy aimed at overcoming our economic crisis and reestablishing the conditions for development to generate employment and keep our citizens in our territory, which is what we would like to see. Police measures to control freedom of movement are difficult in our country, just as they are in the United States, because the Mexican Constitution guarantees freedom of travel to all citizens. We cannot suspend these guarantees unless we suspend individual guarantees, and we do not want to do that.

[Question] As you know, Thursday morning I had the opportunity to talk to Ambassador Gavin. He said that U.S.-Mexican relations are very good, and you just confirmed this when we were talking prior to the beginning of the interview. However, I would like to know to what extent U.S. policy toward Central America has strained these relations.

[Answer] The United States and Mexico have achieved such a degree of maturity in relations that we can even disagree on some points. Not even people who love each other always agree on everything -- not even friends, husbands and wives, always think exactly alike. We have not agreed with the United States on every point of U.S. policy on Central America. We have a different outlook. I believe that the basic goals are the same; we want peace in the area, we want social and economic development for its inhabitants, we want these nations to prosper in democracy and freedom.

[Question] Do you believe, however, that President Reagan wants to, if not pressure you, at least convince you to decrease your support of the Nicaraguan Government?

[Answer] President Reagan is fully entitled to the right to argue in favor of his position, and I will also be within my rights in trying to convince him of the justice of Mexico's position.

[Question] I will try to rephrase my question. Do you believe that the goals President Reagan is seeking in Central America, and the way he is going about achieving them, are reasonable?

[Answer] I believe that we must seek a diplomatic, peaceful, and dignified dialogue among the parties involved. Frankly speaking, I do not believe that the desired goals can be achieved with the U.S. fleet off the coasts of Central America.

[Question] Speaking of Central America, I would like to ask which you fear most: Marxist regimes, leftist regimes, which are perhaps on your border, or an increase in hostilities, which might be provoked by Washington's policies, according to some people?

[Answer] I do not want to view the problem in such schematic or dogmatic terms. Our countries' problems, Latin American problems, are a result of our underdevelopment, our poverty, our ignorance, the lack of health facilities, the suffering endured by some countries -- like Nicaragua, which suffered a long and oppressive dictatorship. I believe we must realize that revolutions occur when people want to improve their living conditions and to live according to certain values.

[Question] To what extent do you believe that President Reagan's foreign policy endangers your chances -- when I say "your," I mean the Contadora Group -- or the possibility that you will achieve peace in the area, or at least contribute toward peace?

[Answer] I am aware of an increasing understanding on the part of Washington of the Contadora Group's efforts. There have been declarations to that effect, even by President Reagan. I do not see any contradiction between Washington's policy and the Contadora Group's policies. The goals are the same. Perhaps the timing or the tactics are different. We do not have a fleet to send to help out in the talks.

[Question] Mr President, I congratulate you for the great advances made during the 9 months of your administration, and wish you the best during the coming weekend.

U.S. 'Two-Track Policy' Scored

FL131628 Bridgetown CANA in English 1525 GMT 13 Aug 83

[By Walker Simon]

[Text] La Paz, Mexico, Aug 13, CANA-REUTER -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid meets President Reagan in this seaside resort tomorrow to test Washington's professed backing for a peace plan to end U.S. and Cuban intervention in Central America.

"We want to see how solid Reagan's support is for the Contadora Group," a Mexican diplomat said of the plan by Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama to end all foreign military involvement in the region.

De la Madrid will question Reagan on the terms of his backing for the Contadora peace plan, telexed to the White House and Cuban leader Fidel Castro last month, Mexican diplomats said.

Senior Mexican diplomats accuse Reagan of following a hypocritical two-track policy, stepping up military intervention in Central America on the one hand and supporting the Contadora peace bid on the other.

Reagan's recent dispatch of 5,600 U.S. troops to Honduras and 19 battleships to the Pacific off leftist-ruled Nicaragua alarmed Mexican officials, who fear the exercises may trigger a war between the two countries that could spread through Central America.

Mexico, the strongest financial backer of Nicaragua in the non-communist world, aims to persuade Reagan to end the U.S. military presence in the area and back Contadora-sponsored negotiations to end regional conflicts.

The tensions stem from clashes between Nicaraguan troops and American-backed rightist rebels operating from Honduras, Washington's strongest ally in Central America.

The diplomats said the brevity of the private talks -- scheduled to last only 90 minutes -- barred breakthroughs, but added the leaders might narrow their differences.

De la Madrid also plans to press Reagan on commercial and financial issues, but Mexican officials said there would be time for only passing discussion of these topics. Mexico is the United States' third largest trading partner.

In Mexico's view, the Contadora initiative -- launched in January on the Panamanian island of Contadora and endorsed in May by the UN Security Council -- is hindred by the conditions for support which Reagan made public two weeks ago.

Reagan says the Organization of American States (OAS) should monitor potential Contadora accords. But Mexican Foreign Ministry officials see this as an obstacle, since Nicaragua rejects the OAS on the grounds it is subservient to Washington.

Washington believes the establishment of democratic institutions in Nicaragua should be an essential plank of a Contadora peace plan. Mexico, in contrast, says the form of government is an internal matter for the Nicaraguans.

Mexican diplomats say Reagan's conditions should take a back seat in the light of the pressing need to defuse the threat of war.

Tomorrow's talks will take place within the framework of a seven-hour meeting between the two presidents, including a state luncheon and several other public ceremonies.

Anti-U.S. Demonstrations Planned

PA141320 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 13 Aug 83 p 5

[Paid advertisement entitled: "Reagan, Get Out of Mexico and Central America"; issued by the Mexican Committee of Solidarity With the Salvadoran People, the Permanent National Forum of Solidarity With the Salvadoran Revolution, and the National Coordinating Board of Support for Nicaragua -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] The Reagan administration's adventurist and warmongering policy to stop the revolutionary advances in Central America is clearly leading to a regional conflict. If the adventurous imperialist military intervention were carried out, it would also be a serious threat to Mexico's national sovereignty.

This is the objective of the threats and attacks against Nicaragua, the open and increasing intervention and military aid to the Magana government of El Salvador, the installation of the military base in Puerto Castilla, Honduras, and the arrogant deployment of the fleet to Central America, which is a step preceding a naval blockade of Nicaragua.

Therefore, we REPUDIATE REAGAN'S PRESENCE IN MEXICO AND DENOUNCE THE PRESSURES that his administration is exerting on our country to force Mexico to abandon opposition to the interventionist adventure, the defense of the path of political dialogue, and the principle of self-determination. At the same time, we totally support the FSLN's six-point proposal and the FMLN-FDR's five-point proposal for a political solution as the only proposals that responsibly reflect the interests of their peoples, capable of opening the path to a just and lasting peace.

WE CALL on the Mexican people to express their repudiation of Reagan with mobilization; WE DEMAND full guarantees for the event to be held in La Paz on 14 August at 0900 in the Jardin Velasco; and WE INVITE the people to the rally to be held that same day at 1200 in front of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City.

Mexican Committee of Solidarity With the Salvadoran People
Permanent National Forum of Solidarity With the Salvadoran Revolution
National Coordinating Board of Support for Nicaragua
Gilberto Lopez y Rivas, responsible for the publication

Further on Demonstrations

PA131941 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1920 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 13 Aug (DPA) -- The Mexican committees of solidarity with Nicaragua and El Salvador have called for demonstrations tomorrow in both La Paz, the site of the meeting with Miguel de la Madrid, and in Mexico City, to repudiate the visit of President Ronald Reagan.

At the same time, the local press today harshly criticized the remarks made in Tampa yesterday by the U.S. President, who reiterated his administration's view about Cuba and the Soviet Union's alleged responsibility in the regional crisis.

In an editorial today, the newspaper UNOMASUNO said that the "diatribes" and "inappropriate and immoderate" statements by President Reagan yesterday "are a long way from creating the climate of serenity needed for a meeting (with Miquel de la Madrid) whose importance cannot escape him."

The newspaper EXCELSIOR also referred in its editorial today to the U.S. President's statement, stating that "it is quite difficult to reconcile the escalation of intervention with his repeated statements concerning peace."

GUATEMALAN COUP SAID OPENING WAY TO IMPROVEMENT

PA121820 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 9 Aug 83 p 5

[Editorial: "A Coup"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday's change in the Guatemalan political leadership opened possibilities for an improvement in that country. This is true despite the fact that the characteristics of the bloody military coup that overthrew General Efrain Rios Montt allow us to presume that this is just another stage in the deplorable succession of military regimes which, de facto or through fraudulent elections, have ruled that sister nation for the past almost 30 years.

Mexico, according to the Estrada Doctrine, does not believe in the recognition of lack of recognition of new governments because of the manipulations they have been involved in. However, our country will follow the events in Guatemala attentively, because they affect us directly: As a result of social conflicts and military violence, our country has felt obliged to receive thousands of Guatemalan refugees in a gesture that is in line with its traditional principles but is also burdensome in times of crisis.

The new government, headed by another general -- Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores -- has taken power making the same old promises of struggling against corruption and leading the country to a full democratization which will include the participation of political parties and the holding of elections in 1984. However, Mejia Victores has been identified as an individual who is even more conservative than his predecessor, because he belongs to the old school of army generals. In fact, his promises for democratization are mitigated by his warning that he will continue the implacable struggle against the left.

It would be naive to think that the United States has remained aloof from the Guatemalan change. Guatemala has not only received considerable U.S. aid directly or in the form of weapons but political tensions in the isthmus have made this country, together with Honduras and El Salvador, a key piece in the strategy outlined by the U.S. Government to pacify the region.

All in all, the new Guatemalan strongman has a historic opportunity: He will either become another officer who stains his hands with the blood of his compatriots, or begin a thorough democratization process and implements social reforms required by his country to achieve peace. Mexico would be very pleased to see the second option become a reality.

BELIZE

COMMUNIQUE REPORTS DELIVERY OF UK AIRCRAFT

PA140348 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2250 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Belmopan, 13 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- According to an official communique released here today, the British Government has delivered two Defender Islander aircraft to its former Central American colony of Belize. The delivery, which took place today, is aimed at increasing Belize's defensive capacity. Several members of the country's defense force are presently in Canada being trained in flight and aircraft maintenance operations. The aircraft will be used primarily for transportation, reconnaissance, and rescue missions.

Neighboring Guatemala has a longstanding claim on Belizean territory and Great Britain has kept a small garrison in its former colony since it gained independence in 1981.

COSTA RICA

MONGE PRAISES CARIBBEAN BASIN INITIATIVE

PA122329 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Aug 82

[Text] According to President Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez, domestic electoral problems influenced the debate on the Caribbean Basin Initiative; that is why President Reagan had to fight such a difficult battle.

Despite this, he said, the approval of the initiative's three steps will bring great opportunities for our country, because Chapter 2 of the Initiative opens U.S. markets to our products. Through it we will be able to make the most of the benefits offered by the Caribbean Basin Initiative, and this is why Monge Alvarez feels that President Reagan has made a significant advance in his efforts to bring about a bipartisan consensus on his Central American policy, despite persistent disagreements, particularly among some members of the Democratic Party, regarding military aid for the region. However, there is no longer any disagreement about the need for speedy economic aid to the area.

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL PEACE FORUM -- President Monge has opened a meeting for democracy, peace, and social justice in Central America. Some 100 delegates from all the Central American countries, Panama, Jamaica, Belize, and Dominica are attending, as are observers from Venezuela, Mexico, the United States, Canada, and several European nations. For 2 days, representatives of democratic political, labor, cultural, intellectual, and media organizations will review the problems of Central America. The purpose of the event is to search for formulas that may lead to the peaceful solution of regional conflicts so that its people can find true peace. Former Venezuelan Foreign Minister Aristides Calvani, Rafael Angel Calderon, former Salvadoran Government Junta President Jose Napoleon Duarte, and Oscar Arias Sanchez are among the prominent politicians attending. [Summary] [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Aug 83 PA]

DEPUTY MINISTER RESIGNS -- Deputy Justice Minister Enrique Rojas Franco has submitted his resignation effective late August. Justice Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez made this announcement at a news conference, adding that no replacement has yet been appointed. [Summary] [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Aug 83 PA]

EL SALVADOR

HAVANA ON FMLN-FDR CONDITIONS FOR STONE TALKS

PA131742 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] The FMLN and the FDR have announced that they will continue the dialogue with Richard Stone, the U.S. special ambassador for Central America, if the United States withdraws its troops and warships from the region.

A communique issued in Washington by Alberto Arene, representative of the two fronts, contains the charge that the presence of U.S. ships and troops in the area confirms the willingness of U.S. President Ronald Reagan to move toward war and intervention, and toward a military, rather than political, solution to the Salvadoran and Central American conflict.

The document stated that Ronald Reagan uses Stone's diplomatic efforts to win time and to bring an end to the opposition in the United States to his Central American policy. The Washington representative of the Salvadoran revolutionaries said: We will not help implement the U.S. Government's plan for war and intervention, but we will go to any meeting on initiatives that objectively lead to peace in Central America.

FMLN-FDR Denies Conditions

PA130241 Paris AFP in Spanish 0152 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] San Jose, 12 Aug (AFP) -- The Political-Diplomatic Commission of the Salvadoran opposition fronts has categorically denied that it has placed conditions on future talks with Richard Stone, U.S. special envoy to Central America.

A report from Washington attributed to the FMLN-FDR [words indistinct] the withdrawal of U.S. warships and troops from Central America and the intervention in that area before continuing contacts that were started last month with Stone in Bogota.

"The report from Washington saying that the withdrawal of U.S. ships and forces was a condition [words indistinct] (?an FMLN-FDR representative) told AFP on behalf of the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the Salvadoran opposition fronts. "We are investigating the origin of that report," the Salvadoran representative added.

VIDES INTERVIEWED ON CONTADORA, DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

PA132045 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Salvadoran Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova has stated that he welcomes the efforts being made by the Contadora Group to achieve peace in Central America. He also referred to the internal political situation in his country:

[Begin recording] [Vides Casanova] We have said that we accept dialogue, but only on the subject of having the subversives or political groups of the extreme left participate in elections. We mean that we advocate a dialogue with the people, who are the only ones with the right to elect their leaders. We are giving them the opportunity to participate in free elections that will be supervised. In essence, we are providing the opportunity for the people to choose what future they want for the country.

[Unidentified journalist] What role does U.S. Special Envoy Richard Stone have in the opening of this dialogue?

[Vides Casanova] I understand that his mission has been to act as an intermediary to bring about a dialogue between the extreme left and the Salvadoran Government's Peace Commission.

[Unidentified journalist] Do you accept this U.S. participation in your internal problems?

[Vides Casanova] Yes, we accept this U.S. intermediary role as it gives us the possibility of establishing a dialogue -- only on participating in the election, however, as we have clearly stated.

[Unidentified journalist] Will the Salvadoran Armed Forces request additional U.S. military aid?

[Vides Casanova] No. For the time being we will face the situation with what we have available. If they offer us more aid, it will be welcome, wherever it comes from. But I believe we have the capacity to fulfill our duty, just as we are now.

Further Report

PA132050 Panama City Circuito RPC-Television in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Excerpts] We have the necessary military capacity to face the communist guerrillas. This statement was made by Defense Minister General Carlos Vides Casanova, who added, however, that the government is currently seeking a dialogue with the rebels. Following is a recorded interview by Ciro Ortega:

[Begin recording] [Vides Casanova] The situation has improved considerably. We are working intensely while the pace of subversion has been reduced. Their actions are now limited to terrorism, sabotage, and attacks on small installations.

[Ortega] What tactics are being used by your government to curb the arms traffic through Nicaragua to El Salvador?

[Vides Casanova] We have recently intensified the activities of our patrols and heightened our intelligence measures to determine the exact route being used for this traffic. In fact, we have already reduced this traffic considerably. I believe that with the cooperation of other countries, it will be possible to establish greater control over the arms traffic.

[Ortega] What is your opinion of the U.S. naval units now in Central American waters?

[Vides Casanova] I understand that the maneuvers are part of an agreement between two sovereign states. Personally I am pleased by it, but of course, it is a maneuver being jointly carried out by two countries through a mutual agreement. [end recording]

DEPUTY MINISTER GOMEZ VIEWS FOREIGN POLICY

PA130333 San Salvador DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 12 Aug 83 pp 3, 11

[Text] "Marxism-Leninism is conspiring to bring us to the negotiating table, while the enemies of democracy are supplying arms and war equipment to the rebels so that they can seize power through violence," Deputy Foreign Minister Alejandro Gomez told the Constituent Assembly during the reading of the Foreign Ministry's report.

Gomez stated that the "ideological aggression which has been internationally orchestrated against our country's deomcratic institutions has increased and intensified."

"Liberal, socialist, religious, and humanitarian groups serving as spokesmen for Marxism-Leninism, either in good faith or out of sheer malice, are acting in favor of Marxism-Leninism because they have been deceived by the systematic and continuous campaign of misinformation being carried out abroad against our country," Gomez said.

"They are promoting an unfair propaganda campaign which distorts, conceals, and minimizes our country's progress in the fields of democracy, social justice, human rights, social development, and efforts to achieve peace," Gomez added.

"In the meantime, Nicaragua continues its covert operations, which are well known to everyone, supplying arms and war equipment to the guerrillas and supporting them in their goal of making our country a totalitarian state and a pawn of the USSR and Cuba in their ambition to dominate the region and the world," Gomez pointed out.

"It is in this context that the conflict in our country is related to the East-West confrontation, which interferes with the efforts of the government of national unity to reconcile all sectors and thereby have peace in both our country and in the region," Gomez said.

Gomez stressed the fact that El Salvador is no longer on the list of countries accused of human rights violations. "Through bilateral and diplomatic efforts, in international forums and in full view of world public opinion, our government has been recognized as a country that loves peace and defends its democratic institutions," Gomez said.

He pointed out that Foreign Ministry personnel have played an important role in strengthening and giving credibility to El Salvador's traditional principles: nonintervention in the internal affairs of states; respect for the right of all countries to self-determination; respect for the equal legal rights of all nations; support for the principle of peaceful solutions to conflict among states; and international peace and security.

"The Contadora Group's conciliatory efforts have contributed to the peace initiatives. El Salvador's position regarding the Contadora Group is clear and positive. We believe that in order to have peace in the region, the Central American countries must discuss and analyze the region's problems objectively, to establish a basis of understanding that can lead to detente and to the strengthening of the region's democratic processes," Gomez said.

"Regarding the United States, we have tried to present the country's real situation honestly, so that public opinion, particularly U.S. public opinion, has a better image of our democratic process," Gomez said.

"With this in mind, and considering how important it is to our country to maintain good relations with the people and government of the U.S., we decided to go to Washington when President Reagan went before Congress to certify the progress made by El Salvador in the political and economic fields," Gomez stated.

Gomez also touched upon Europe's hard line toward El Salvador, a product of the misinformation campaign. He explained that the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry has implemented a dynamic foreign policy toward Europe, which has contributed to improving our country's image there and has promoted cooperation and aid plans from Europe.

Finally, Gomez noted the progress made with Honduras in the mixed border commission meetings.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CRITICIZES BIG PINE II

PA120247 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1900 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Salvadoran Human Rights Commission program: "Before the National Conscience": "War Games Begin"]

[Text] Military exercises involving the Honduran Army and U.S. troops began this week in neighboring Honduras. The exercises, which will last 6 months, are to include 5,000 U.S. troops and a like number from the Honduran Army, in addition to 19 warships carrying close to 17,000 Marines.

The Reagan administration's Defense Department, better known as the Pentagon, has declared that these military maneuvers constitute a demonstration of U.S. military strength. These exercises are aimed at pressuring those whom the U.S. terms enemies of democracy; in other words, the Nicaraguan Government and, to a lesser extent, the Salvadoran rebel forces.

It is very difficult to understand U.S. policy in the region. It seems that the strategists in the White House and the Pentagon believe we are still in the beginning of the century, when the United States formulated and achieved its foreign policy objectives through threats and the direct use of military force.

One feels that the Reagan administration still clings to the past imperial adventures of the U.S. Navy. Ignoring the present, the administration wants to bring back the days when U.S. power determined the fate of Latin American nations.

It would seem the Pentagon views itself as a sort of a national security council, while all the other U.S. foreign policy bodies believe that the international community has not fully grasped the magnitude of the consequences of a regional conflict.

Americans presume that the entire world will remain silent in the face of their arrogant, warmongering threats. The U.S. military and civilian judges cannot understand that the world of today is different than that of a few decades ago, when the Americans easily led organizations such as the UN.

But we are also surprised. The Reagan government's stance cannot deceive us. The fact that the United States has sent a war fleet and more than 20,000 troops accurately reflects its frustration, its lack of reason, and its lack of historic vision.

The United States understands that its proposals and policy lack credibility and have not been accepted by the Central American peoples. For this reason, the United States threatens us, hurls its immense military power against us, and militarizes our societies.

It is only through the use of the force that the United States can maintain an upper hand in Latin America, especially in Central America. The political domination which the United States has traditionally exercised is now being questioned.

Many people now understand that the current situation must be changed, and that political struggle is the only way to achieve this goal. The problem is that the United States cannot, or does not want to, understand this.

The United States sees a potential enemy in every Central American who tries to improve his standard of living. This is the ultimate reason behind the war games. The United States feels cornered, unable to provide political answers, and powerless in the ideological battle. The United States has only the resource of war left. Its imperialist spirit is such that it sees no other type of solution to the crisis.

We Salvadorans and Central Americans vigorously condemn the development of these military exercises, which do not help the cause of national pacification. On the contrary, they increase the possibility of an imminent regional confrontation.

The Big Pine II exercises are merely the last efforts of an imperial power to maintain the status quo. It is not through military force that the freedom hurricane currently lashing Central America will be stopped.

Let's consider the situation. There is still time to prevent the indescribable, to avoid our countries' destruction. Let's make every effort to avoid war.

HAVANA CITES ARCHBISHOP'S SUNDAY HOMILY

PA150255 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas, archbishop of San Salvador, has asked the Salvadoran regime to put a definitive end to the indiscriminate bombing carried out by the Air Force. He said that many defenseless civilians, and not only guerrillas, are the ones who die as a result of these bombings. He added that elderly people, women, and children are among the dead.

In his Sunday homily, Msgr Rivera y Damas charged that the security apparatus is engaging in repression, leveling accusations, making illegal arrests, and causing people to disappear. He also accused the security forces of trying to depict the refugee centers run by the Salvadoran Catholic Church as terrorist hideouts.

The archbishop also charged that some employees of the archbishopric's social office have been arrested by the Salvadoran National Police as alleged members of the People's Revolutionary Army and that he received 29 reports of such arrests last week. He noted that some of these people were later reported as having disappeared.

According to other reports, FMLN forces inflicted 50 casualties on the Salvadoran Army in clashes in the departments of Cabanas, San Vicente, and La Paz. The reports add that the regime has failed in its attempt to create the so-called strategic villages at San Pedro Hill, which were intended to isolate the guerrillas from the local population. This tactic was recommended to the regime by U.S. advisers.

ANONYMOUS CALLS REPORT NEW CLANDESTINE RADIO

PA132011 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] A new clandestine radio station called Radio National Sovereignty [Radio Soberania Nacional] was made known today through anonymous calls to news agencies and national news media. According to the anonymous reports, the radio station began operating this morning and will be transmitting on two frequencies in the 41- and 43-meter bands.

In the anonymous telephone calls, the self-styled Salvadoran patriots said that Radio National Sovereignty has gone on the air and that it will transmit from 0600 to 1200 and 1800 to 2000 [1200-1800 and 0000-0200 GMT] on 7.50 khz [as heard] in the 41-meter band and 6.9 khz [as heard] in the 43-meter band.

ARMY CLAIMS 200 GUERRILLAS KILLED IN 56 DAYS

PA130344 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 9 Aug 83 pp 3, 17

[Text] Some 200 guerrillas have been killed in 56 days of counterinsurgency operations, Colonel Dionisio Hernandez, commander of the 5th Infantry Brigade headquartered in San Vicente, told DIARIO LATINO.

The official said that the antisubversive actions being carried out by the Army in the area of San Vicente have been concentrated on the slopes of Chinchontepec Volcano and in the vicinity of the place called Cerro San Pedro.

In general, a fair number of terrorist camps have been destroyed in the Armed Forces operations, including two of the best organized, which were in San Bartolo and Chanmico, Colonel Hernandez said. He added that these two frequently mentioned camps had been considered the strongest, but when the Cazadores Battalion from Jiboa in San Vicente appeared, the guards at both places left in the area, abandoning the camps. Colonel Hernandez noted that "the extremists at these camps did not resist and these areas are now under the complete control of the armed forces."

Referring to casualties suffered by the Army during its actions in the 56-day period, Colonel Hernandez said that there were a total of 24, including the latest, which occurred on the slopes of the Chinchontepec Volcano.

In conclusion, the commander of the 5th Infantry Brigade said that the operations have been 95 percent successful, since the objectives pursued are being attained. "To our satisfaction, we have carried out the program as planned," he said. Finally, the officer noted that Army troops are on constant patrol and dominate various sectors where they have continued to search for and destroy guerrilla redoubts.

ARMY ATTACKS EXTREMISTS IN CHICHONTEPEC

PA120506 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 11 Aug 83 pp 2, 19

[Text] The military garrisons of Zacatecoluca, Usulutan, and San Vicente, with artillery and Air Force support, yesterday continued combing and searching operations for terrorist columns entrenched in the hillsides of Chichontepec Volcano.

An Army spokesman explained that its new plan consists of continuing to pursue extremists after they have stopped fighting. Approximately 300 extremists who attacked a passenger and cargo train the day before yesterday fled to Chichontepec Volcano, where the Army is now attacking them.

The noise of exploding bombs, firing cannons, and rattling machineguns began early yesterday morning and did not end until the afternoon. The Army reports it is in control of the highways.

In the meantime, planes diving from 6,000 feet continued dropping bombs on the extremists' positions, who answered the attack. After a while, the rebel fire became sporadic, while the Army continued advancing beyond Chichontepec Volcano.

At 1500 the Air Force stopped its attack as the extremists had abandoned their positions. The Armed Forces repeated that pursuit of the extremists will continue in various directions. Road blocks have been set up near Zacatecoluca, Tecoluca, San Juan Nonualco, San Pedro Nonualco, and other positions near Chichontepec Volcano.

5 GUERRILLAS KILLED, 1 SOLDIER WOUNDED IN CUSCATLAN

PA130447 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] An A-37 plane of the Salvadoran Air Force bombed rebel positions this morning in the southern zone of Guazapa Hill, according to Colonel Adolfo Blandon, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade. The officer added that rebel elements were detected in the place known as El Salitre. The brigade benefitted from the plane's support.

In addition, five guerrillas were killed and one soldier wounded during an armed clash that occurred between 0100 and 0300 today in the southern part of the village of Santa Cruz Michapa in Cuscatlan Department.

The report was furnished by military sources, who indicated that the action occurred when a patrol from the 1st Infantry Brigade detected rebel movement in the area. It was also reported that intensive patrolling is being carried out in order to prevent further activities by subversives.

Operations Continue

PA140428 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Bombing and counterinsurgency operations continue near the Guazapa Volcano for the 2d consecutive day. Some 3,000 Armed Forces troops are taking part in the operations. The loud blasts that were heard in the capital this morning come from the bombing of rebel positions at the volcano north of San Salvador.

Meanwhile, military sources have revealed that the counterinsurgency operation that has been underway for the last 2 weeks in parts of northern Chalatenango, some 80 km from San Salvador, came to an end yesterday afternoon. It has been said that an official report on the operation will be released today by the Armed Forces Press Committee.

Meanwhile, in San Vicente Department, in the province of San Nicolas Lempa, near Usulutan Department, heavy fighting took place as the military searched for subversive elements who had been spotted by Army units. According to preliminary reports made available to the YSKL news center, the guerrillas established themselves on a certain part of the coastal highway, near San Nicolas Lempa, to collect their famous war tax.

Fighting also broke out yesterday on (Mendez Island) when guerrillas attacked a small village there, killing one member of a Civil Defense unit.

NEW SEARCH OPERATION OPENS IN SENSUNTEPEQUE

PA140446 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] A new search operation to locate guerrilla redoubts has been underway since Thursday.

It is being carried out by the Sensuntepeque Military Detachment in the cantons of Potrero de Batres, El Iscatal, El Amate, and El Junquillo, in San Isidro jurisdiction, and in the Santa Lucia, Las Tortolas, and La Tetera cantons in Ilobasco.

Some 1,000 troops are taking part in the military operation. So far there have been no reports on its results.

MORE GUERRILLAS REPORTEDLY ACCEPT AMNESTY

PA120337 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1342 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 11 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- An official spokesman has announced that more than 50 guerrilla fighters and collaborators have accepted the benefits of the amnesty law that has been in force in El Salvador for the past 85 days.

The spokesman said that with only 5 days left before the law expires, the number of fighters who have laid down their weapons is on the rise, and a group of pardoned persons is preparing to travel to Australia to live and work.

Kirio Waldo Salgado, a member of the amnesty board, today told ACAN-EFE that 50 pardoned persons and their families had traveled to Canada this week to take up residence under the terms of an agreement with the Canadian Government. According to Salgado, 1,025 persons have enjoyed the benefits of the amnesty law: 549 are released political prisoners and 476 are guerrillas who have laid down their arms.

RADIO VENCEREMOS ON U.S. FORCES IN HONDURAS

PA132230 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Never before in the history of Central America have any of our countries witnessed such a concentration of warships and aircraft deployed for warmongering purposes as is now to be found in and around Honduras. The number of U.S. troops in Honduras can only be compared to the number of U.S. Marines who invaded Nicaragua 50 years ago. The Reagan administration has now turned Honduras into a huge garrison. Weapons, ammunition, and war supplies continue to arrive, the pretext being the maneuvers that the U.S. Army is staging in Honduras.

For the last 2 years, we have been warning the Honduran people not to allow their territory and Army to be used as instruments of aggression. Given the current situation, Hondurans certainly now have enough facts to confirm the falsehood of President Suazo Cordova's alleged policy on the internationalization of peace, a program which he proclaimed with such ballyhoo.

This is borne out by the tension and instability that the former Somozist guardsmen, protected by the Honduran Army, have created on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border, and by the terrible international image which Honduras has as a result of having rented out its sovereignty by permitting the installation of a U.S. military base that trains troops for the area's dictatorships.

The presence of numerous U.S. military advisers among the Honduran Armed Forces has broadened and intensified the repression of the Honduran people. The kidnapping of a Honduran university professor is the latest expression of a planned policy of persecution, torture, and assassination of the people of that country.

This is the product of U.S. intervention in Honduras, which has provided the government with a civilian, democratic facade, when it is in fact the sell-out militarymen who actually rule.

Honduras is being led into a war a thousand times more destructive and bloody than that of 1969. The preparations for this war of aggression have already been made in Honduran territory; but there is still time for the people of Honduras to stop it by closing ranks against the occupation of their territory by the U.S. Army, which will be in Honduras, trampling its sovereignty, for at least 6 months, and who knows how many more. The war can be avoided by preventing cooperation with the dictatorships of Guatemala [words indistinct] (?not allowing) the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa to make the decisions in Honduras.

MAGANA'S VISIT TO CARRIER 'ACT OF SUBMISSION'

PA130437 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] In a despicable act of submission to U.S. interests, Alvaro Magana visited the U.S. aircraft carrier Ranger, which is standing by along the coast of Central America. To encourage Magana to continue defending the interests of the empire and to free him of his fear resulting from the FMLN's advances, the commanders of the U.S. fleet carried out a special demonstration for Magana's benefit. They displayed for him the might of the U.S. ships and aircraft.

While the ships fired their cannon and the combat planes dropped their bombs for Magana's benefit, the U.S. military chief reminded him of his commitments to the imperialist government. While all this was taking place, our flag was hoisted on the aircraft by U.S. hands, under a hugh U.S. flag, as a reminder of the dictatorship's dependency on U.S. military power and its submission to the interests of imperialism.

Our sovereignty has once again been publicly insulted. About a year ago, a group of U.S. Marines, led by the U.S. ambassador, displayed a U.S. flag in the dictatorship's Constituent Assembly with the approval of all the deputies.

We have taken up arms because our sovereignty and our right to decide our destiny have been surrendered unconditionally. Salvadorans were not born to lower their heads or submit to any foreign interests. The Salvadoran people will close ranks and intensify their struggle against the imperialists who are threatening our people and against the puppet dictatorship which approves of such threats.

We must all join the fight to rescue our sovereignty, to recover our right to self-determination, to struggle for our true independence, to join our militias, and to fight without rest until our actual liberation is achieved.

U.S. MANEUVERS LINKED TO GUATEMALAN COUP

PA120429 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Ronald Reagan says cynically that the military maneuvers in Central America are not an act of aggression, but it is clear to the entire world that it was on the aircraft carrier Ranger that the recent coup d'etat in Guatemala was planned.

The imperialists assert that the presence of their war machinery in Central America is not an act of aggression and yet, while over 5,000 North American soldiers land in Honduras, thousands of former Somozist guardsmen (?initiate) a new invasion of Nicaraguan territory.

What new imperialist maneuver can we expect now that Magana the puppet has just [word indistinct] from the aircraft carrier Ranger, displaying a most despicable subservience to North American interests?

Behind the presence of the North American warships lay obscure plots and perverse plans of intervention against the people of Central America. Let us close ranks to stop them.

ARMY CASUALTY FIGURES 'CLEAR SIGN' OF DEFEAT

PA131935 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] A war is won by he who annihilates more, recovers more, and captures more prisoners on the battlefield. According to the figures issued by Defense Minister General Vides Casanova, it is the FMLN which is winning the war. Speaking to the Constituent Assembly, Vides Casanova has disclosed some figures that, although incomplete, show who is really losing the war.

According to the defense minister, in the last 12 months -- that is, in just a year -- the dictatorship's armed forces have suffered 6,715 casualties. That is to say, 6,715 officers, noncommissioned officers, and soldiers have been irresponsibly sent to death or suffering by the military high command. This large casualty figure gives an idea of the dictatorship's failure in its war against the people.

Of course, Vides Casanova has concealed some figures. For instance, he did not disclose the number of prisoners captured in combat — more than 1,000 -- who, after being freed by our forces, have not rejoined the Army. Nor did he release any information on the large number of soldiers who have deserted the Army.

Nevertheless, the fact that an army like the Salvadoran Army has suffered more than 6,700 casualties in just a year of combat shows the degree of defeat that the Army has sustained. If we believe the figures issued a year ago by General Jose Guillermo Garcia, the dictatorship suffered 3,800 casualties in the first year of war. If we add both figures, the FMLN has, in 2 years, killed or temporarily or permanently taken out of action half of the dictatorship's Army, 50 percent of the troops that the dictatorship had in January 1981. This is another clear sign that the military tactics of the U.S. advisers in El Salvador have been defeated.

If we believe the figures issued by Vides Casanova and Jose Guillermo Garcia, the Army has suffered 10,516 [figure as heard] casualties in these 2 years of combat. From this, we can deduce how many weapons the FMLN has snatched from the puppet army sustained, financed, and armed by the administration of Ronald Reagan. There is no doubt that Vides Casanova has been forced to publish some figures of his defeat in order to tell the gringos: Look, this is how things are; look, we need more advisers, weapons, dollars; we need more imperialist intervention in El Salvador. After all, Vides Casanova and Magana, on board the U.S. aircraft carrier Ranger, care little about El Salvador's national sovereignty. For them, it is their own interests which are at play. But, based on the figures issued by Vides Casanova, the war can have only one outcome: the people's victory.

VENCEREMOS PROFILES 'CRIMINAL' LT COL CRUZ

PA131535 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] This station has received another report on the well-known massacres ordered by the criminal Lieutenant Colonel Alberto Cruz, director of the Commando Training Center in San Francisco Gotera.

On 31 July, members of the Morazan Battalion commanded by Lt Col Cruz murdered 10 people in a village in the jurisdiction of Ocicala, Morazan Department. The victims were identified as Guillermo Garcia, 60; Maria Ramirez, 50; Mario Ramirez, 18; Concepcion Ramirez 41; Lucas Garcia, 10; Marcos Orellana, 10; Concepcion Ramirez Garcia; Elena Gomez; an 18-month-old girl; and an unidentified woman.

Once again the troops of the criminal Lt Col Cruz, incapable of obtaining positive results against the revolutionary forces, have taken it out on innocent and defenseless peasants in Morazan Department.

Lt Col Cruz has an infamous record of repression. He has been involved in coupist plots. He is also a close friend of Roberto D'Aubuisson and other notorious criminals. Lt Col Cruz has ordered many crimes in Morazan Department since arriving in San Francisco Gotera. He has also threatened representatives of the International Red Cross, the UN High Commission for Refugees, and other international organizations. Lt Col Cruz is one of the 20 leading officers responsible for the rightist trend in the Armed Forces.

The chain of crimes committed by Lt Col Cruz will come to an end when the dictatorship falls, and that day is not far off.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA VICTORES PROCLAIMS 90-DAY AMNESTY

PA130454 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2037 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 12 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- The new Guatemalan military ruler today offered leftist guerrillas a 90-day amnesty and signed a decree that guarantees the legal rights of those who are arrested.

According to a presidential spokesman, General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, who ousted General Efrain Rios Montt on 8 August, adopted the measures "to promote harmony among the country's inhabitants." The spokesman said that the amnesty would apply to all those who turn themselves in and admit to political crimes committed during the past 20 years of leftist struggle against successive military governments.

Kidnappings would also be covered, provided the victims have been freed unharmed. An official statement said nothing about the steps that would be taken after the 90-day amnesty, which took effect today.

The spokesman added that the decree on civil rights abolished previous laws under which suspects were arrested and detained without trial for "security reasons." In the future, arrests will take place only by judicial order or, in exceptional cases of arrest "on suspicion," the prisoner will be taken before a judge for formal indictment.

Diplomatic analysts see today's announcement as a step by the new Guatemalan authorities to adjust their fighting tactics against leftist guerrillas to conform to U.S. policy in Central America. Mejia Victores made it clear that he, like his predecessor, considers the fight against "subversion" to be his number one task.

Nevertheless, analysts said that Mejia Victores apparently wants to establish a number of policies that the White House can present to congressmen who criticize U.S. support for rightwing authoritarian regimes.

Mejia Victores has already lifted the "state of alarm" imposed by Rios Montt which restricted freedom of the press and the right of assembly.

Text of Amnesty Decree

PA131945 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Government Decree No 89-83; issued in Guatemala City on 11 August 1983]

[Text] The chief of state:

Whereas: It is the basic obligation of the state to promote adequate conditions for the strengthening of peace and harmony among citizens of this country. Therefore, it is appropriate to grant an amnesty for actions that have in some way caused political violence with the intent of destabilizing the political regime;

Whereas: To achieve the desired peace it is necessary to have those who are, for any reason, involved in these activities return to their homes and enjoy the guarantees granted by law. For this, it is necessary to issue the appropriate amnesty decree.

Therefore, in exercise of the responsibilities granted by Articles 4 and 26, Paragraph 13, in the government statute, as modified by decree-laws 36-82 and 87-83:

Decrees: Article 1: An amnesty is granted for political crimes and other related violations in which those who participated, either as perpetrators or accomplices, are persons who, individually or collectively, comprised part of the subversive groups that have been acting in a violent way against the political-juridical order of the nation; or those who committed the crime of aiding or abetting these actions. The amnesty also covers those who committed crimes of this nature without being or having been part of the subversive groups mentioned in this article.

Article 2: In order for the present amnesty to work for those covered by the previous article -- so that they are not subject to trial -- it is necessary that these persons comply with the following conditions:

Within 90 days after the law comes into effect, they must voluntarily appear before civilian officials, such as departmental governors and mayors, or before the nearest military official. They must state under oath that they will henceforth refrain from participating in the criminal activities mentioned in Article 1 or in any other subversive activities. They must also surrender any weapons, ammunition, or other war equipment which they might have, and specifically indicate where other weapons may be hidden.

The appropriate report will be issued on this action, and the official involved will state, on behalf of the government, that the physical integrity and liberties of the person who surrendered will be respected. On this same occasion, their liberty will be made effective. A certified copy of this report will be given to the person involved.

In the case of kidnapping, those seeking amnesty must release the kidnapped person safe and sound, as well as the weapons and other elements that helped them commit the crime. They will not demand or receive any ransom.

Article 3: This decree will also apply to persons facing trial before a common court -- in either an ordinary or special jurisdiction, but comprising a juridical organization under the law -- if and when no sentence has been issued. Otherwise, the court will dismiss the case.

Article 4: This decree-law will be in effect 8 days after its publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Signed at the National Palace in Guatemala City, 11 August 1983.

Be it known and carried out.

Brigadier General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, chief of state.

Manuel de Jesus Giron Tanchez, secretary general of the presidency.

Aroldo Cabrera Enriquez, deputy government minister.

SPECIAL COURTS TO BE ELIMINATED 1 SEPTEMBER

PA142228 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1847 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 14 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Colonel Jesus Giron Tanchez, secretary general of the presidency, has announced that the special courts, which have been responsible for the deaths of 15 people in the last few months, will be eliminated on 1 September.

Giron Tanchez told two local newsmen that the government of General Oscar Mejia Victores will change a decree that imposes the death penalty on those found guilty of having committed a variety of crimes.

The secret courts were created on 1 July 1982 by the now-deposed Efrain Rios Montt. They came under the Defense Ministry, which was headed by Mejia Victores. Distinguished jurists have called these courts "antilegal monsters."

Giron Tanchez explained that there will be a modification of the supreme penalty, which has been applied to crimes such as kidnapping, aggravated arson, the manufacture or possession of explosive material, attacks on railroads, and attacks on sea, river, and air transport. The decree also imposed the death penalty for crimes such as the poisoning of water or food, treason, and attacks on the integrity or independence of the state. It also included the crimes of genocide, terrorism, storage of arms or ammunition, and trafficking in explosives.

Giron Tanchez said that trials which began after 8 August, the day on which Mejia Victores overthrew Rios Montt, will be transferred to common courts.

MEJIA VICTORES ON CONTADORA RECOMMENDATIONS

PA140151 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2203 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Madrid, 13 Aug (EFE) -- The new Guatemalan president [as received], General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, today declared that he agrees with many of the Contadora Group's recommendations on Central America, although, he said, "the decisions are ours." "Its recommendations on efforts to achieve peace are good, and we welcome all recommendations that may be made, but the decisions must be taken by the interested parties," Mejia said in an exclusive statement to the Spanish television program "Weekly Report."

Explaining the reasons for the overthrow of former President Efrain Rios Montt, Mejia said that "a month ago" all of the commanders met with Rios Montt, "and in response to requests and recommendations from government advisers, he said that when all of the commanders, in general assembly, asked him to resign he would comply." "That took place on Monday, 8 August," Mejia added. "The commanders asked General Rios Montt to resign in order to effect a change in government, a change of authority, a change in the commanding general of the Army, which fell to me by virtue of seniority." "I had no intention of obtaining the high honor of being the head of state of Guatemala," Mejia explained.

For the new president of Guatemala, the topics that hold priority in his government are those related to "the special courts, the state of alarm, and the existence of religious sects within the government."

Asked if measures of a social nature -- primarily those linked to the problem of the exiles and amnesty -- will be adopted, General Mejia responded that "any measure that promotes the people's freedom of expression and respect for human rights will help resolve the problem."

Mejia affirmed that the expression "young officers" is "ill-intended, because it is used to create a rift in a solid institution. It is a problem," he said, "and the application of such names or evaluations should never be permitted in a military institution."

Asked about the possible resumption of diplomatic relations between Spain and Guatemala -- which were severed following the police raid on and subsequent fire in the Spanish Embassy in Guatemala, when occupied by a group of peasants in January 1980 -- Mejia responded: "If commercial relations exist, why not have diplomatic relations?" Four embassy employees and more than 30 peasants who had occupied it died during that incident.

Mejia reaffirmed the charge he made in his first press conference after taking power to the effect that Maximo Cajal, then Spanish ambassador to his country, had collaborated with the subversives. He did add, however, that "if we were to sit doen at a table for discussion, I believe we could come to an understanding."

ANDRADE DIAZ APPOINTED NEW FOREIGN MINISTER

PA131640 Paris AFP in English 1339 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Guatemala City, Aug 13 (AFP) -- Closer links between Guatemala and the United States seem likely after the appointment of Fernando Andrade Diaz as foreign minister here.

He was the first member of the new government to be named by General Oscar Mejia, who seized power in a coup on Monday.

Mr Andrade Diaz is on friendly terms with some important U.S. personalities, notably Henry Kissinger, according to generals who took part in former military governments of Guatemala and to whom Mr Andrade Diaz acted as adviser.

The new foreign minister, who takes up his duties next Tuesday, has already praised U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Central American policies. The first foreign diplomat to meet General Mejia after the coup was U.S. Ambassador Frederick Chapin.

Analysts here say this represents a "profound change" in Guatemalan foreign policy which will become more apparent when General Mejia continues his overhaul of the Foreign Ministry next week. He has already appointed Colonel Carlos Armando Moreira, the former military attache in Washington, as deputy foreign minister.

MEJIA DISCUSSES ELECTIONS WITH JOURNALISTS

PA132315 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1921 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Guatemalan President [as received] Oscar Mejia Victores has met with various Guatemalan groups in his first 6 days of government. The most outstanding meeting, however, was with representatives of the news media, whom he told of his decision not to accelerate the schedule for the next elections.

General Mejia Victores explained to the directors of the most important media that he was asked by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal not to hasten the elections, a possibility that he himself had recently mentioned.

The Supreme Electoral Tribunal said that it is impossible to move the date of the elections for a national constituent assembly forward because of the legal, administrative, and economic obstacles that it is facing.

The calendar established by the ousted President Efrain Rios Montt and various political groups -- which had been rejected by the rightist sector -- scheduled the elections for 1 July 1984, and the installation of the legislative assembly for September.

The journalists who attended the meeting today stressed Mejia Victores' desire to ensure that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal remains an "independent and autonomous organization." They added that the new leader asserted that he "has every intention of leading the country toward democracy."

"I want the Armed Forces to hand over power to the civilians, and I intend to have non-military presidents succeed one other in our country in coming years," the president said. "We believe that it is time for government to be left to the civilians and for the military to take charge of the nation's security, as it should be, instead of having members of the military occupy public posts," he added.

Mejia Victores guaranteed "total and absolute freedom of the press."

The president explained that there will be a series of "gradual" changes in the administration, "seeking to create a more dynamic state" that benefits the citizens.

As of today, the economy, finance, and agriculture ministers have been confirmed in their posts. The foreign minister and the government's official spokesman were removed from their posts (a civilian replaced a military officer in the latter case).

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL PRESIDENT REAFFIRMS AUTONOMY

PA121750 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Supreme Electoral Tribunal President Arturo Herbruger Asturias has said that the change in government will affect neither the tribunal's autonomy nor the position of those who work in this high organization.

Herbruger Asturias said that according to the law which regulates the tribunal's organization, its members were appointed by a commission comprised of the rector of San Carlos University, representatives of all the private universities in the country, a representative of the assembly of presidents of professional colleges, the deans of the law faculties of all the universities, and the honorable Supreme Court of Justice.

HONDURAS

PRESIDENT SUAZO CORDOVA'S HEALTH IMPROVES

PA122226 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] President Roberto Suazo Cordova is progressively increasing his workload as his health continues to improve. He was noticeably more active on Wednesday and Thursday of this week in the performance of his executive role. He attended to several documents that had been awaiting his signature. The agreements deal with contracts for the construction of hospitals, health centers, and schools in various parts of the country.

He also signed decrees issued by the National Congress. On Thursday morning, President Suazo received the board of directors of the Rodista Liberal group that went to his place of rest to express appreciation and solidarity.

Although President Suazo has not been in his office, he is in continuous contact with his closest advisers as a means of keeping informed of the administration's activities.

Meets U.S. Naval Commander

PA130402 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] President Suazo Cordova met yesterday with Admiral Wesley McDonald, commander in chief of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. McDonald was paying a courtesy call and spoke with the president for 10 minutes.

The U.S. officer was accompanied by other U.S. Navy officers. Carlos Roberto Flores, minister of the presidential office, Lieutenant Colonel Ruben Humberto Montoya and Colonel Walter Lopez Reyes, commanders of the Honduran Navy and Air Force respectively, were also present at the meeting.

The commander of the Atlantic Fleet later went to the Presidential Palace, where he spoke with Carlos Roberto Flores and Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica.

CHIEF OF STAFF EXPLAINS AHUAS TARA II

PA121640 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] The military exercises being carried out in Honduras do not represent a threat to any neighboring country, although they do represent a benefit for those nations which are involved in them. This statement was made by Colonel Jose A. Bueso Rosa, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces joint staff.

The officer made this statement to counteract declarations that these exercises, which are being carried out together with elements of the U.S. Army, represent a threat to Nicaragua. This cannot be the case, since the Nicaraguans also have and work for ideological principles. [sentence as heard]

The exercises began on 1 August. They will serve to train our soldiers in various skills including the construction of houses [words indistinct] So far, the only type of activity carried out in connection with the Ahuas Tara II maneuvers as they are known, has been the planning, which has been the responsibility of 80 officers -- North Americans and Hondurans. Once the maneuvers begin, they will include some 10,000 troops, 6,000 of whom are Hondurans. The joint maneuvers will be simultaneously carried out in Honduras' south region, Comayagua, Trujillo, and the valley of Adalta, according to Col Bueso.

U.S. CITIZEN KILLED BY HONDURAN SOLDIER

PA122305 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2221 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- Honduran military authorities have reported that a U.S. citizens was shot to death last week by a member of the Honduran Air Force near San Pedro Sula. Honduran newspapers identified the victim as Edward Nathaniel Waters of New Jersey. He was approximately 45 to 50 years old, the same sources said.

An Air Force spokesman said that Waters was shot when he tried to escape after refusing to identify himself. "The soldier fired twice in the air, but Waters did not stop," Miguel Paz Reyes, the military spokesman explained.

Reyes said that the Honduran authorities are investigating Waters' presence in Honduras. Apparently he was on his way to New Orleans from Panama, when he ran out of money at the airport in San Pedro Sula.

His body was picked up early Sunday morning along the road to the airport. The authorities did not give the name of the soldier who shot Waters, nor of the lieutenant who witnessed the incident.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA: U.S. DOES NOT SEEK POLITICAL SOLUTION

PA141857 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1802 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Managua, 14 Aug (DPA) -- Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the government junta, has described the advances in the efforts for peace in Central America by the Contadora Group and the United States as "formal."

Speaking yesterday to the cabinet and delegations of Nicaraguan regional governments in a private session in the northern Nicaraguan city of Matagalpa (155 km from Managua), Ortega said that President Reagan's creation of the bipartisan commission chaired by Henry Kissinger could be considered a "formal advance."

The leader said that the "advances crash against the attitude of the Reagan administration, which in practice and in reality does just the opposite of what it proposes." He indicated that such "contrasting" behavior weakened the mission of special envoy Richard Stone, who visited Nicaragua twice.

Ortega said that the United States "shows that it is not interested in solving the Central American problems politically, so we must prepare to place this country on a war footing at any moment to defend ourselves from aggression."

Ortega said that direct intervention in El Salvador by the U.S. Marines cannot be ruled out in view of the defeat that the guerrillas of the FMLN are inflicting on the Army of the U.S.-supported Alvaro Magana government.

FURTHER ON WILSON VISIT, TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

Talks Termed 'Rather Tense'

PA121740 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan government junta, and U.S. Senator Pete Wilson last night held rather tense talks on proposals which might contribute to bringing peace to the region.

In his meeting with Commander Ortega, the senator from California was accompanied by U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua Anthony Quainton; Drew Harker, member of the Armed Forces Committee staff; Mike (Albretch), Wilson's legislative assistant; and Lieutenant Colonel James Jones, of the U.S. Marine Corps.

The meeting, which was also attended by Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, was held in the presence of many foreign and local newsmen.

In a clear attempt to intervene in our domestic affairs, U.S. Senator Pete Wilson read a prepared statement during a meeting of more than 60 minutes with Commander Ortega. Wilson told Ortega that the six-point proposal announced by the Nicaraguan revolutionary government on 19 July is very interesting and positive for promoting peace in the region. He noted, however, that the proposal does not make any reference to holding elections, which is a subject of concern for both his government and the Central American governments.

Contradicting earlier positions outlined by the Reagan administration to prevent a war in the region, Wilson said the holding of elections in Nicaragua, as determined by the United States, is a decisive factor in bringing peace to Central America.

Ortega Responds to Wilson

PA130154 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Daniel Ortega, commander of the revolution and government junta coordinator, has said that the six-point proposal presented by the revolutionary government last 19 July is an important ingredient for preventing a regional conflict.

Ortega made the comment in light of U.S. Senator Pete Wilson's statement that the election is a relative point in Nicaragua's peace proposal, which was presented to the Contadora Group.

In response to the Yankee politician, Ortega said: The determination of election dates in Nicaragua is a decision for the Nicaraguans themselves, because many of them die daily as a result of counterrevolutionary attacks backed by Honduras and financed by the United States.

Senator Wilson left for Guatemala today after a 24-hour visit to Nicaragua, during which he met with revolutionary government members. Wilson met with Daniel Ortega last night. During the meeting, the U.S. politician said that the six-point proposal presented by the Nicaraguan Government on 19 July is very positive and interesting from the viewpoint of peace in the region. At the same time, he indicated that the proposal makes no mention of the elections, a matter he said concerns the Reagan administration as well as Central American capitalist governments.

BORGE CHARGES 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY' INFILTRATION

PA131505 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0034 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez, interior minister, has reported the infiltration of counterrevolutionary task forces in our country since yesterday. He also reported the concentration of Honduran Armed Forces on our northern border. Following are the remarks by Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez:

[Begin recording] [Borge] There are signs of military concentrations near our border. The first phase involved counterrevolutionary concentrations and the second phase Honduran Army concentrations, artillery, and other weapons. Some forces have entered the country. We wanted these forces (?to enter), and we have decided to attack them. Other forces are ready to enter Nicaragua within the context of a plan to give continuity, perhaps at a greater level, to the objective of destroying our revolution. Of course, their entrance in the country must respond to an integral plan. They will not move some distance inside the country after the experience they had with the [name indistinct] and (Renato) task forces, which were dispersed and defeated. They will not repeat that same effort without having a more integral plan whose dimensions we still have not learned.

[Unidentified reporter] Commander, what is the size of the counterrevolutionary forces that are concentrating to enter the country?

[Borge] We cannot speak of numbers. We would rather remain silent about the knowledge that we have on this until there is a more [words indistinct].

[Reporter] Will a new protest note be sent to the Honduran Government?

[Borge] I think we would compile an encyclopedia of the protest notes that we have sent, but I also believe that we must protest on each occasion as a matter of principle.

[Reporter] Commander Arce said this afternoon that Yankee imperialism is preparing a large-scale aggression against our people. What is your comment?

[Borge] I referred to the same thing, but in more explicit terms. It is a much more important escalation. Completing Bayardo's words, there are counterrevolutionary military forces near the border as the first phase and Honduran Army forces as the second phase, whose intentions could be to support the entrance of those forces, or something else. In any case, we are prepared.

[Question indistinct]

[Borge] There is always the possibility of an understanding. Bayardo said that it would be irresponsible for us to think that the presence of the fleet is positive and that we should not be worried about the presence of the U.S. fleet. I think we must be concerned about the presence of the fleet precisely because any pretext that emerges at this moment could be used, bearing in mind that those forces are there. However, in my view, the presence of the troops has reduced the support for the Reagan government in the United States. The proximity of the fleet has removed the support within the United States for a direct intervention at this time. However, we do not completely rule it out.

[Reporter] Commander, do the ambush in Jinotega and the blowing up of the bridge [words indistinct] task forces?

[Borge] This is what I was speaking about. They are inside. We are attacking them. We wanted them to enter. It was preferable that they enter for reasons of military tactics, but we have now launched a serious attack on them.

[Reporter] How have our forces emerged from those attacks?

[Borge] The attack began yesterday. [end recording]

This has been the news conference that Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge granted to national and foreign journalists at the conclusion of the ceremony to mark the fourth anniversary of the Sandinist Police.

BAYARDO ARCE SCORES 'AGGRESSIVE' REAGAN POLICY

PA140455 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Thus far Reagan has not been able to justify his aggressive policy toward Nicaragua, Commander Bayardo Arce said yesterday. Speaking on behalf of the FSLN Directorate, Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, coordinator of the FSLN Political Committee, said that it is necessary to consider the potential of the masses in their combined action with the Sandinist Police.

Commander Arce was the principal spekaer at the closing ideological events marking the 22d anniversary of the founding of the FSLN and the 4th anniversay of the founding of the Sandinist Police, held yesterday at the Altamira Theater in Managua.

The revolutionary leader said that President Reagan has not yet been able to justify his aggressive policy toward Nicaragua to the North Americans, who do not believe his twisted arguments. Commander Arce said that not since the time of General Sandino have there been so many Marines, so many aircraft, and so many U.S. naval vessels surrounding our country.

D'ESCOTO SAYS U.S. INVASION, HONDURAN ATTACK POSSIBLE

PA141322 Paris AFP in English 1226 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Bonn, Aug 14 (AFP) -- The United States is preparing for an attack on Nicaragua, Miguel D'Escoto, the Nicaraguan foreign minister, said in an interview published here today.

"The Americans are fighting us by using counterrevolutionaries," the weekly newsmagazine DER SPIEGEL quoted Father D'Escoto, a Roman Catholic priest, as saying. "They are preparing an attack by the Honduran Army, and we should be prepared for a possible American invasion."

Part of his country's preparations included the replacement of voluntary military service with conscription, he said.

Father D'Escoto also called U.S. diplomatic efforts a "masquerade." "If they were really interested in a diplomatic solution, they would not have sent their fleet," he said.

The U.S. diplomatic efforts are being led by Richard Stone, the U.S. special envoy to Central and Latin America, and Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. Father D'Escoto called both "the personification of anti-diplomacy."

He also said that the recent military coup in Guatemala had contributed to a worsening situation in the region. The new Guatemalan leader, General Oscar Mejia Victores, took power in a coup last Monday. He is viewed as more pro-American than his predecessor, General Efrain Rios Montt.

GOVERNMENT CLOSES LA PRENSA FOR 'CONTEMPT'

PA141439 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1430 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Managua, 14 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- LA PRENSA publishers reported today that the Sandinist government has definitely closed the opposition newspaper for "contempt" of the authorities.

The order definitely closing the newspaper arrived at the LA PRENSA office shortly before midnight. Therefore, LA PRENSA will not be published as of today.

Discussion With Authorities

PA141730 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1710 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Managua, 14 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- LA PRENSA sources have told ACAN-EFE that the closing of the newspaper is "indefinite."

At first the publishers had said that the newspaper's suspension was 'definitive,' but it has been confirmed now that it is for a undetermined period.

LA PRENSA's board of directors has been summoned to a meeting with the Sandinist authorities to discuss the "indefinite" suspension for "contempt of the authorities."

Publication To Resume 15 Aug

PA142148 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2131 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Managua, 14 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- After 2 hours of talks with Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge, members of the board of directors of the newspaper LA PRENSA agreed that the opposition newspaper will resume circulation tomorrow, Monday, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, codirector of the paper told ACAN-EFE this afternoon.

The Interior Ministry's Directorate of Media ordered the temporary closure of the Managua newspaper last Saturday for having "disobeyed the authorities by publishing material that was not authorized" by government censorship.

The information that prompted the indefinite closure of the paper, which did not circulate today, Sunday, dealt with an attack with stones by unidentified individuals on the home of Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, co-owner of the newspaper and former junta member. According to the codirector of the newspaper, the interior minister reported that the acts that caused the publication of the note "and the disobedience" will be investigated in depth by the police.

The newspaper's board of directors indicated that the material that was banned by the censors was published "because our dignity was at stake; however, no one was accused -- rather, the facts were objectively publicized."

The talks between the editors of LA PRENSA and Commander Borge took place in the Sandinist official's home.

HAVANA INTERVIEWS OFFICIAL ON SUGAR MILL, CUBAN AID

PA130014 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Interview with (Dennis Quezada), deputy director for industrial development of the Nicaraguan Agricultural Development Ministry, by (Nestor Nunez), special Radio Havana correspondent in Nicaragua, at the Tipitapa-Malacatoya Agro-Industrial Sugar Mill complex near Managua; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Nunez] Quezada, first of all we would like to ask about the importance of this new complex for Nicaraguan sugar production.

[Quezada] In the first place, this sugar mill will increase Nicaraguan sugar production by 40 percent. In addition, the construction of the sugar mill will contribute to the development of the area where it will be built, as it will joint part of Nicaragua's central area with the capital, and will contribute to the devleopment of the Tipitapa region.

In addition, the area in which the sugar mill is being built was virtually idle. Cotton was cultivated there some 20 years ago, but that ceased because of rainfall problems. Some cattle were raised on a small portion of land, but the farm land was not being used.

[Nunez] Can you tell us how important Cuban cooperation is in this project?

[Quezada] Cuba's cooperation is quite important; the bulk of the investment comes from Cuba. When the mill construction began, Cuba granted a $50-million loan to Nicaragua that was used as investment capital. Cuba is also providing technical advice, and installation will be aided by 450 Cuban specialists who have vast experience in the installation of the type of machinery involved. They have installed approximately four sugar mills in Cuba -- the (30 November Sugar Mill), the Guasimo Battle Sugar Mill, and two other sugar mills whose names I cannot recall.

[Nunez] Will Nicaraguan workers be trained by the skilled Cuban workers?

[Quezada] A training program is already being implemented, and some 70 or 80 Nicaraguan companeros are now receiving special training in the operation of the sugar mill. In addition, plans call for using Nicaraguan labor in the installation along with the Cuban companeros.

[Nunez] We thank engineer Dennis Quezada, deputy director for industrial development of the Nicaraguan Agricultural Development Ministry, for his statements to Radio Havana.

SOMOZIST GUARDS DYNAMITE BRIDGE IN JINOTEGA

PA121735 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Excerpts] As proof of their resolve to continue the struggle and of their love for the Sandinist revolution, the Construction Ministry workers have pledged to have the bridge over the Jiguina River repaired a month from today.

The bridge was dynamited early Wednesday by a unit of Somozist guardsmen. The blast damaged the 35-meter-long concrete structure of the bridge, which is located 15 km from the city of Jinotega.

Angel Meza, a peasant whose house is located approximately 25 meters from the bridge over the Jiguina River in Jinotega Department, described the shock waves caused by the explosion of seven dynamite sticks planted at the bridge by a unit of Somozist guardsmen early yesterday [as heard] morning.

Further Report

PA140452 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Troops from a Sandinist People's Army reserve batallion engaged in an armed clash with former Somozist guardsmen for an hour in (Planes de Avilan), about 45 km northeast of Jinotega.

Twenty-five reservists participated in the clash with a counterrevolutionary unit of 100 armed individuals. Two Sandinist soldiers and an undetermined number of former Somozist guardsmen were killed.

Meanwhile, counterrevolutionary forces that had infiltrated from Honduras caused serious damage to a bridge over the Jiguina River with seven dynamites charges. They also killed 12 individuals in an ambush on a passenger bus. Both of these incidents took place in Jinotega Department.

KIDNAPPINGS OF ADULT EDUCATION TEACHERS REPORTED

PA121740 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Ernesto Vallecillo, deputy minister for adult education, yesterday reported that three promoters of this program had been kidnapped on 7 August by counterrevolutionaries. These companeros were kidnapped while performing their duties of teaching peasants how to read and write in the San Juan de Limay, Las Naranjas, and Las Canas districts.

Vallecillo said 52 companeros have been kidnapped and 38 have been murdered thus far by counterrevolutionaries.

HAVANA REPORTS SLAYING OF UNAG LEADER, KIDNAPPINGS

PA121830 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] A counterrevolutionary band that entered Nicaragua from Costa Rica killed a Nicaraguan peasant leader from southern Rio San Juan Department and kidnapped 23 members of a cooperative.

The National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen reported that Miguel Antonio Oporto Gomez was brutally killed early Tuesday morning in Morrillo, 30 km northeast of San Carlos, the department capital. After perpetrating the crime, the group kidnapped 23 peasants in Cruz Verde, 30 km east of Morrillo.

The report, published today in BARRICADA, states that the counterrevolutionary band belongs to the so-called Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, led by Eden Pastora.

PASTORA ANALYZES CENTRAL AMERICAN SITUATION

PA120316 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Nicaragua in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Statement read by Commander Eden Pastora Gomez, leader of the Sandino Revolutionary Front; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] A very interesting situation has arisen within the framework of Central America's problems, and we must discuss it so that Nicaraguans and Latin American politicians will know our stand.

A large number of warships are sailing near the coasts of Nicaragua. The decks of these ships are becoming warm from our tropical sun. The heads of many Nicaraguans who think the Americans are coming to overthrow the National Directorate and place them in power are also getting warm. So now is a time of rushing to and fro and of hot little heads trying to maneuver to reach power in Nicaragua by virtue of the intervention of U.S. Marines. But they are wrong.

The gringos, Shultz has already said it -- we listened to him on the Voice of America today and on another station whose name I can't remember -- announced that they do not intend to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government. They have said that they intend to stop both the war in Central America and the guerrilla warfare in El Salvador.

Shultz did not refer to the fact that freedom of the press is lacking in Nicaragua. He did not mention the lack of political freedom in Nicaragua or the lack of respect for human rights. In sum, Shultz did not refer to Nicaragua's internal problems. I don't know what these hot little heads thought, but they surmised that the gringos were willing to die in Nicaragua to push the nine traitors of the National Directorate out of power and place them there. The situation became very worrisome for these hot little heads when Mr Shultz -- who confirmed our theory and previous suspicions -- talked about providing refuge in the United States for those they are financing, meaning the counterrevolutionaries they are supporting. If I am not mistaken, this is what Shultz said over NBC, which, I believe, is a U.S. television network. In other words, what we've been repeating for some time has now been confirmed. Shultz sent a message to the Salvadorans and the former Somozist guardsmen who operate in the north.

For our part, we will continue the war until Nicaragua's domestic problems are solved. We believe that as long as these problems exist, and as long as there is no freedom of the press, no political freedom, no freedom of religion, no free elections, no respect for human rights, etc. in Nicaragua, there will be no peace in Nicaragua or in Central America. In other words, we must have democracy in Nicaragua for there to be peace in Central America.

From dignified positions we have fought and criticized foreign intervention and the threat of an invasion, whether via Aeroflot, Cubana de Aviacion, or the ships, aircraft carriers, and destroyers off our coast.

From our dignified positions we criticize any foreign intervention. We criticize and reject any Soviet intervention in our land. We condemn and will fight, if necessary, U.S. intervention. This is what we fought against yesterday, are fighting against today, and will fight against always.

Nicaraguan peasants, workers, students, market vendors, militiamen, border guard troops, companeros of the Sandinist People's Army, the time is drawing near. The last days of August and all of September will be days of great combat and action. August is a historical month for all Nicaraguans. The peoples of Latin America and especially those of Nicaragua will never forget 22 August.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR -- Leonar Arguello de Hooper has been appointed ambassador to Costa Rica, replacing Rogelio Ramirez Mercado, a brother of Junta member Sergio Ramirez, who has held the post for 9 months. The new ambassador will present her credentials on 17 August. She was formerly Nicaraguan consul in San Francisco, California. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 6 Aug 83 p 5 PA]

AGREEMENT WITH NETHERLANDS -- National Ports Director Cesar Delgadillo has announced a $5-million credit agreement with the Netherlands for a project to improve the port of Corinto, which will be supervised by Netherlands experts who are expected to arrive in the latter part of September. The project, scheduled to begin early in October, is to include sand dikes that will serve to protect the facilities from high tides, which often damage the port's installations. [Summary] [Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Aug 83 PA]

FIDEL CASTRO 6 AUGUST PRESS CONFERENCE

FL121437 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0036 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Press conference granted by Cuban President Fidel Castro to a group of French journalists during a luncheon hosted on 6 August at the Palace of the Revolution in honor of visiting French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson -- recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified journalist] [Words indistinct] since you said the other day that U.S. journalists are good, we would like to begin by asking you whether you have anything to say to the French people.

[Castro] You know that our country is composed of Europeans and Africans, a mixture, and a little Indian blood, because in the initial years the Spanish made the Indians work very hard and many of them died. Therefore, we have been greatly influenced by European culture, not the Saxon culture, but the Latin culture [words indistinct]. I would say that the country that had the greatest cultural influence on Cuba, after Spain, was France. That is, just as we feel bonds of affection with the Spanish people, we also feel them with France. Those periods of war in which blood was shed on both sides -- Spanish blood, Cuban blood -- have been left far behind, and we have very affectionate bonds with Spain. We also have very affectionate bonds with France. We feel affection for France, we feel affection for the French people, and we also feel affection for their history. Their history influenced us, to tell the truth.

Before I read my first works on Marxism, I had read the history of the French Revolution, which was discussed when I was in the early grades. I did not know very well what it was, what had happened, what the French Revolution was. Later I read and studied it and became very interested in it, and I believe that the history of the 1789 Revolution had a great influence on me. I read many different authors. Sometimes I read these books until dawn when I was a student on vacation and had no homework to do. I also talked about this to Cheysson because later this was the influence, let us say, of the first modern revolution, the French Revolution; that is, revolutionaries against feudalism and despotism. Later, we were also influenced toward socialism as well because Marx himself was greatly influenced and transmitted...retransmitted it to us in two works that are classics for us: "The History of the Civil Struggle in France" and "The Eighteenth Brumaire."

Later, the Paris Commune greatly influenced Cuban revolutionaries; not only us, but the Cuban revolutions in the wars of independence of 1868 and 1895. The war of '68 was characterized by a romantic spirit that was influenced...I would say it was influenced by the Jacobins; but it was also influenced by De Lamartine because I see the history of the Girondins reflected in the literary production and speeches of the first fighters for independence.

The influence of French revolutionary ideas was reflected in the Cuban independence wars, in our independence fighters. In our own struggle for liberation there were three French influences: The French Revolution, the civil struggles in France and the Paris Commune, and lastly the French resistance against the Nazis. The whole history of the Resistance -- the French clandestine movement -- influenced us as a method of struggle due to the patriotism, the heroism demonstrated by the French. That influenced us in our last liberation struggle.

That is, we had three French influences: The Liberal bourgeois revolution, as we call it; the struggles of the socialist revolution in France; and the struggle of the French Resistance [words indistinct]. Therefore, after Spain, France is the European country that has most influenced Cuba. In the field of medicine, we have always looked to France. In literature and the arts, we have always looked to France.

It has been said that our food is Spanish and French. Even at the beginning of the last century, many French families arrived from Haiti. They settled in Oriente; some even settled in Pinar del Rio, in Soroa, and in that area. Hundreds of French families cultivated cacao and coffee. They also introduced French agricultural techniques; therefore, after Spain, the country with which we have greatest historical roots is really France. That is why we feel sympathy and affection for the French, not only cultural bonds, but also affection.

[Unidentified journalist] Commander, it seems that in this framework the specific relations between the two countries and peoples are headed [words indistinct].

[Castro] I believe so, yes. There were difficulties in French-Cuban relations during the initial years of the revolution due to the independence struggle of the Algerian people. We were very interested in relations with France; they have always interested us, both political and economic relations. At that time a situation existed that, out of principle, out of solidarity, led us to take a firm position, a position of opposition to the official French position and of support for the Algerian fighters. After the Algerian problem had been solved, political relations with France were initiated; they improved. Economic relations as well. These have improved progressively since then. Naturally, the victory of the left in France raised many hopes in our country. Our relations with the left were very close -- our relations with Mitterrand and our relations with the French communists. I would say that relations began to improve with this government many years before the victory of the left. When we received a French delegation presided over by Mitterrand in our country, we considered it a duty and our right to express our affection for the left. Although the victory of the left seemed very remote in 1974, we received the delegation of the Socialist Party with open arms. Mitterrand received much sympathy in our country. It was as if we had guessed that some day the left would achieve power in France. That is, they had begun to develop previously and, I would say, like all of our relations, unselfishly. Our relations with revolutionary movements are unselfish and we welcomed the victory of the left with great joy. We are leftists and I believe that this can be understood perfectly.

I believe that this will lead to even better relations with France; that is not to say that our relations were bad. Let us say that, even during De Gaulle's administration, these developed (?in good faith). We always sympathized with De Gaulle's spirit of independence. Therefore, [words indistinct] the relations were good. Naturally, there is much more communication and affinity with the leftist government. Consequently, the relations should be better, and they are improving.

[Unidentified journalist] (?What relationship) is there in the relations? Are these principally bilateral, or do they permit dealing with a whole series of problems that do not involve just Cuba and France?

[Castro] You are right. I believe that relations that are restricted to bilateral matters would not be sufficiently broad. France has responsiblities in the world. I would say that France is not a powerful country, but that it is a great power that has technological development, scientific development, economic development, and international prestige. In my judgment, France can and does play a very important international role.

I am very interested in France's concern for Third World problems. In all recent international conferences of the so-called Western developed countries, France is the country that has shown the greatest interest in the problems of the Third World. This is a point where French Government policy and our concern as a Third World country coincide, because we are socialists but we also belong to the Third World. In our international statements, we have always considered the interests of Third World countries because they reflect the historical reality of underdevelopment and because we have a common interest with them and defend them at international conferences.

Our condition as a socialist country and our condition as a Third World country are not a contradiction. As I said in New Delhi, over and above political, religious, and ideological differences, we have many things in common with Third World countries that we are keeping in mind and defend. Moreover, we do not defend national interests. We are not very nationalistic -- we are patriots -- but we are not very nationalistic, and we are strongly faithful to our principles. We have often sacrificed our national interests for the sake of the principles of our revolution and our internationalist principles.

The North Americans do not understand that, it is very difficult for them. They are a bit accustomed to thinking that national interests should come before any other interest. However, we have said that our homeland is not just Cuba; our homeland is humanity. We are learning to think in terms of humanity. Man first thought in terms of a clan, then of a tribe, then of a feudal group, then he thought in terms of a nation.

I believe there is a fine borderline. We are Marxists or believe that we are, and Marxism includes patriotic and national sentiments -- the national sentiment was a great advance. I believe that national sentiment continues to play a large role and should play a large role because, in the struggle against colonialism and neocolonialism, this national sentiment plays an important role. I say that it is still a very progressive idea. A country defends its national interests against foreign oppression. However, I would say that this is the hour of transition; and for us transition -- this change -- means to think not only in national terms but in international terms, in worldwide terms, one could say. Today, nationalism does good in some cases and sometimes it is damaging. It disturbs me when I see politicians entrench themselves behind the banner of national interests. We must reconcile the two interests, the national and the international.

[Unidentified journalist] I believe that you discussed the problem of sugar, which is one of the things dealing with [words indistinct] humanity.

[Castro] [Words indistinct] with the French?

[Unidentified journalist] with the French.

[Castro] Well, I do not know whether some of my collaborators or comrades have discussed this. I did not, I did not want to...

[Rafael Rodriguez interrupts] Yes, the problem of sugar was mentioned in the talks between France [words indistinct] and now we have again taken up the subject of the participation of both countries as a community and as members of the International Sugar Organization, the negotiations for a new sugar agreement.

[Castro] But I, personally, did not bring up this subject. I have been very careful to see that in this delegation's visit, in this meeting, we would above all discuss general problems. I did not want to lay emphasis on our interests. We are interested in sugar, especially if we could reach agreement on the interests of Third World sugar producers with the EEC. This would be very important. I did not want to emphasize economic matters of interest to us while discussing bilateral relations. I would like to see the visit end as something good, not that our hospitality be seen as something material. Mr Cheysson has conducted himself very nicely. He himself brought this up. Perhaps among the rest of the members of the delegation this has been discussed, but it has not been the main topic of our conversations.

I would say we have examined international matters, above all those issues of the international situation on which we agree. I would cite as an example France's interest, the European Community's interest in general, in seeking a negotiated political solution to the Central America problem and keeping the problem from worsening, from becoming more serious. U.S. intervention in Central America must be avoided. We are struggling for that for the sake of all the Latin American peoples as well as for the U.S. people. We agree on that.

In addition, we discussed the problem of Namibia, the problem of southern Africa [words indistinct]. We agree in our positions. France and Cuba have discussed international economic problems, the international economic crisis, problems derived from it, interests common to the developed world or, as it is called, the developing world, and the interests of industrialized countries. Third World countries are seriously affected by the crisis, much more so than the industrialized countries; but the crisis also affects the industrialized countries. A solution to these economic problems would help the underdeveloped world and the industrialized world.

This creates instability in the Third World; it creates instability in the developed countries. This problem of inflation, above all of unemployment, creates economic stagnation. We are concerned with the high interest rates that have to be paid for credit. We are concerned with the foreign debt of the Third World. We would like to find a solution to these problems and determine what interests are common to Third World countries and industrialized countries, and to Third World countries and European industrialized countries.

It must be kept in mind that, when French people travel around the world, in the first place they represent France, but they also represent to a large degree the interests of industrialized Europe as they make contacts. I believe the French delegation has done this in Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, and Cuba, Latin America; the French delegation has tried to find points of agreement in economic interests between the Third World and industrialized Europe. I believe that there is a point of agreement for all industrialized and underdeveloped countries. A solution must be found to this crisis. I base my statement on the hypothesis that, if there is no solution to Third World's economic problems, there will not be a solution to the industrialized world's economic problems because there will be no markets. There will not be an efficient struggle against unemployment. There will be an underutilization of the industrial capacity of developed countries. They will work at only 60 or 70 percent of capacity. Skilled labor, industry and the enormous market of the industrialized world depend on the developing world becaus they need the technology and investments. The developing world is an essential market for the developed world.

At present, trade among the industrialized countries alone does not solve the economic problem, much less at a time of contraction. There are talks now about a certain degree of improvement in the U.S. economy, also in the FRG economy. But the truth of the matter is that they have started at the very bottom, the cellar.

If you are in the cellar and make some strides, you reach the first floor but will still be far away from the 10th floor. In the United States, industrial production went down. In Europe, it came to a standstill, and in some countries there were reductions in industrial production. Beginning at that point, any increases are reflected in statistics. Perhaps there has been a growth rate of 3 or 4 points; not compared to the highest point of production, but compared to this drop. I believe that this [U.S.] economic improvement will be short in duration, very brief. There are no foundations for a lasting economic recovery. What has characterized international economic evolution in recent years has been an increasingly more frequent cycle of drops in production. In the midst of this crisis there can be a small improvement in the United States, perhaps in the FRG and a few other countries, but it does not have a solid foundation. The world economy is like as a drifting ship; it does not have a rudder except the U.S. rudder, which is trying to protect its own interests.

We could say that the United States, with its economic and financial policy, its policy of high interests rates, is forcing the rest of the world -- not only the underdeveloped world but also the developed world -- to finance its arms race, to finance its budget deficit. The United States is forcing a second recipe upon us. The first one was during the Vietnam War, when it spent hundreds of billions of dollars without taxes. Who paid for that? The world paid. They printed bills, resulting in inflation. In fact, the world involuntarily financed the Vietnam war. I believe that policy is the fundamental factor of the current crisis. It has various other factors, but that is a very important factor. Now the United States, with its policy of high interest rates and theft of capital, is forcing us to pay for the arms race and the great U.S. budget deficit. That is the advantage of having a powerful economy. The advantage that the dollar is a world currency has imposed on us for the second time the enormous burden of what I would call defending bad causes.

I believe that the French can perceive this because the high interest rates are affecting France's investments. U.S. policy affects the value of the French currency. All that translates into trade deficits; it translates into budgetary deficits; it translates into inflation. Despite the fact that France has a developed and powerful economy, it has to endure the attacks of this U.S. policy. This manifests itself in economic difficulties, unemployment. That is a reality. This also applies to Spain, Italy, the FRG, Japan, to the entire industrialized world. These are realities which are a result of U.S. policy. What is happening is that the North Americans are so powerful that governments are forced to handle things with great care, I mean their relations. I know that deep down, in all the industrialized countries, there is a serious complaint regarding this economic policy. Those problems affect the underdeveloped countries much more. They have a huge debt, nearing $700 billion, and that debt is continuing to grow. Many economists have no answer for how that debt is going to be paid. We also have a debt. We will pay it because it is not too big. Eighty percent of our economy is based on trade with socialist countries, where we have good, satisfactory trade relations, both in relation to the prices of our products as well as in relations to imports. If the prices of the products we import increase, the prices of the products we export also increase. I believe this has been a great gain for our revolution. We depend 20 percent on the international economy. The international economic crisis affects us to that degree. We have a debt. We believe we can pay it. We will pay it. For us, this is a matter of honor, of elementary consideration for the banks and financial institutions which trusted us in the midst of a blockade. That is why we are making the interest payments as soon as they come due.

But I sincerely believe that the great majority of the underdeveloped countries cannot pay their debts; mathematically, it cannot be done. Their economies are stalemated. Their basic products have depressed prices. Trade relations are increasingly more unfavorable. The debts are enormous and their exports barely pay the interest. It is a very serious problem that constitutes a responsibility for the entire world, the developed capitalist countries, the developed socialist countries in the Third World; that is, to find a solution to this problem. It is a tragic problem which could bring about the intensification of the crisis and a great destabilization inside both developing countries and developed countries.

It is a tragic problem. Here we have a common position between France and Cuba. I say that, among Western developed countries, the one that shows the most concern for these problems is France. I can see that we have many things in common, many points. I would not say there is 100-percent agreement in international policy but we have not been dotting the "i's" on those things on which we agree in policy but only on those things that are and can be useful in our policy and which could be useful in developing relations with France.

I am not speaking only of bilateral relations but also of general relations. It is our common concern, without comparing Cuba to France. France is a power and we are a small country, and if they want to give us a name, we are a small power.

[Journalist] Commander, you recently insisted on the need to include El Salvador in the negotiations process. Do you want to do that now or could that be a part of the Contadora process?

[Castro] I believe that a negotiated political solution for Central America cannot be considered if a negotiated political solution is not found for El Salvador, because a solution that excludes El Salvador would be a betrayal of the Salvadoran people. In addition, the focus of attention so far has been El Salvador. What is happening is that, as a result of U.S. policy, there has been a change of the focus of attention from El Salvador to Nicaragua, which is a U.S. interest. But the situations of Nicaragua and El Salvador are not comparable, they cannot be compared. There is internal strife in El Salvador, a civil strife not of persons who are crossing the border but of persons who are inside the country. The struggle is 3 years old; it is a strong struggle. There is no internal struggle in Nicaragua; there is no civil war there. What is going on in Nicaragua is border conflicts organized and encouraged by the United States, the so-called secret war of the CIA. These are attacks from the northern border and, to a lesser degree, from the southern border.

[Journalist] Have there been invasions?

[Castro] Yes, invasions. It is something similar to what took place in Cuba at Giron. At Giron, there was an internal conflict in Cuba as a result of an invasion. That is what is going on in Nicaragua. But that is no excuse to compare the situations in El Salvador and Nicaragua. The solution to the problem in El Salvador is a sine qua non requisite for the solution of the problems in Central America. I believe that the problems in El Salvador can be solved. The revolutionaries have seriously and consistently said so. They are willing to find a negotiated political solution because they are trying to avoid an intensification of the conflict, a foreign intervention. They are aware of the danger of foreign intervention. The Salvadoran revolutionaries are aware of that but are not afraid. They are not afraid. Of course, they would try to avoid it. Even though they are now stronger than ever before, their sense of responsibility for their country, Central America, and Latin America forces them to be willing to find formulas of negotiated political solutions to their country's problem. That is a point that must be respected.

[Journalist] Commander, do you feel that, since the Contadora Group's efforts began, since the meetings held by Stone and the Sandinists, since your speech on 26 July, there has been a change in the Central American policy of the U.S. Government?

[Castro] There has been something. There has been a certain change in the tone, in the tone of the rhetoric. In action, the policy is being maintained in full. The maneuvers are continuing at a very fast pace, without previous announcement, on Central American territory in Honduras. The deployment of troops to Honduras has occurred. Two aircraft carriers and 19 warships have been deployed off the Nicaraguan coastline. It has been announced that the maneuvers will continue until February, no one knows, indefinitely. No one has ever seen that type of maneuvers anywhere. Maneuvers last 2, 3 weeks, 1 month. Who has ever seen maneuvers that last 6 months? It is an astute, futile move to cover up what constitutes a show of U.S. forces and troops in Central America. Now they say the maneuvers will last 6 months, later on they will say 6 years. It is a show of troops and naval forces in Central America. In action, there has been no change on the part of the United States. There has been a slight change in rhetoric. It is a situation of force, of pressure, of psychological war. Unfortunately, the U.S. leaders believe that the statements made by Nicaragua and Cuba are the result of that policy of force. I belive that is a mistake. I am absolutely convinced that Nicaragua will never give in to a policy of force. I can speak for Cuba, and Cuba will never give in to a policy of force.

I can also say that seeking a solution can never imply unilateral concessions on the part of the revolutionaries, on the part of Nicaragua, on the part of Cuba. We talk about an honorable, moral solution, based on mutual commitments. That is the only solution that can be achieved. Solutions based on capitulations will never occur. Solutions based on unilateral concessions will never occur. We cannot negotiate the withdrawal of our men because it would be an act of disloyalty to Nicaragua. Nicaragua can negotiate that withdrawal. Nicaragua is receiving our cooperation and, in fact, we support its policy. If it wants to negotiate on any of these points, we will support whatever negotiations Nicaragua conducts. It it wants to negotiate on this basis, we will support it.

As a principle, cooperation cannot be negotiated. We cannot negotiate the Salvadoran cause or the Nicaraguan cause. We cannot negotiate the Central American cause. We respect those countries scrupulously; we respect their decisions. We understand if they have to negotiate any other point, and we support them. These points proposed by Nicaragua and Cuba are the key points that have to be discussed. We stand ready to support any negotiations. We are not the ones to decide what to do, or the ones who will negotiate. All these problems can be negotiated by the Salvadoran revolutionaries and the Nicaraguans. We do not negotiate. The only thing we can do is support them in the negotiations. We support them in the search for a peaceful solution and we support their policy. That is different from negotiating their interests or their cause. We can negotiate Cuba's affairs. We cannot negotiate the affairs of El Salvador or Nicaragua. But we have voiced our decision to support their efforts for a peaceful solution and to support the negotiations they develop.

In reality, the Central American problem cannot be solved by negotiations between Cuba and the United States, but by negotiations between the Salvadoran revolutionaries and the United States. Their conflict is with the United States. The negotiations between Nicaragua and the United States are proper. They are the ones that have to discuss the problem. It is not important that we cannot discuss for them. We can discuss Cuba's affairs, but the problems of Central America, Nicaragua, and El Salvador must be discussed by the Nicaraguans and the Salvadorans.

And it seems to me that things would advance a great deal if those discussions were established. Therefore, we have noted with satisfaction the contacts between Stone and the Salvadoran revolutionary movement, and the contacts between Stone and the movement...[Castro changes thought] and Nicaragua. And if there is contact between this commission headed by Kissinger and the Nicaraguans -- very good -- and if there is contact between Kissinger and the Salvadorans -- better yet. They are involved in their problem, and their fundamental problem is the United States. Nicaragua's problem is the United States. The problem of the Salvadoran revolutionary movement is the United States because, without the support, the logistics, and the advance of the United States, that government would not exist.

Both the Salvadorans and the Nicaraguans should talk with the United States. We support that discussion and believe is the key to the problem. No one can talk for them. Is that clear?

[Journalist] Commander, can the Contadora Group help in the negotiated solution in El Salvador?

[Castro] It can help a lot and it is making an extraordinarily positive contribution, but I am concerned that the Contadora Group has not spoken out about the Salvadoran problem. It has not spoken.

[Journalist] [Passage indistinct]

[Castro] It is believed that the U.S. move of transferring the focus of attention to Nicaragua was directed at eliminating the Salvadoran problem. I am concered that the Contadora Group has not clearly defined the need for a solution to the Salvadoran problem, even though it is true that President Belisario Betancur sponsored the meeting between the Salvadoran revolutionary movement and Stone. I believe that was very good. But, officially, the Contadora Group has not made any proposals to solve the Salvadoran problem, which is a key point in finding a solution in Central America.

[Journalist] Have you talked about that with the French foreign minister? What is his position?

[Castro] Well, I can speak for ourselves. We have explained our position regarding Central America. We are pleased with what the French foreign minister said, but I can only speak for Cuba; I cannot speak for the French side.

[Journalist] If you will allow me to change the topic...

[Castro] Well, I will not hold you to any... I believe the reality is what counts. I will answer briefly.

[Journalist] In France, there have been many dirty campaigns on human rights. Today, there was an article in a magazine by a man named Valladares. Can you say something to the French people on human rights?

[Castro] I would like to know who paid for that campaign. Somebody must have paid for it. We do not pay a single cent for propaganda. In France, we have friends, but the right has some influence on the French press, which is very unfortunate.

The U.S. mass information media have a great influence in France. UNESCO referred to that problem when it discussed the information media monopoly. We are vaccinated against that; we are used to that. It is a disease, but we are immune to that disease. It does not make us nervous; it does not make us lose any sleep. We have been able to resist it because we have a vaccination against it. We are looking for a good vaccination against that system of publicity aimed at blemishing a country's image.

We have to say two things about Valladares. He was a member of the Batista police force. We have the documents to prove it. Valladares was sentenced for acts of counter-revolutionary terrorism. He was not handicapped. He faked it. The whole international campaign was based on the fact that he was handicapped, but he was not. He was called a poet, and he was not a poet. Many of his verses were written abroad. If he is a poet, we are happy for it and wish him well. It has been said that all of us are part poet and madman; that is the truth. Perhaps the French people would understand better if I remind them that they are holding Klaus Barbie. What is his name? Klaus Barbie. What the French people want is that justice be done, that he be condemned. Of course, I am not comparing Valladares to Barbie, because Valladares was not a member of the German Gestapo, and I have no proof that he perpetrated any crimes against the revolutionaries. He was simply a member of the Batista gestapo, which perpetrated many crimes. He was a youth who today is a great intellectual, a poet. He was a Batista policemen who became a policeman at the time of the greatest repression against the people. Later on, he plotted against the revolution and consistently participated in terrorist activities. Well, I believe the French have a bitter memory of the Nazi occupation, the repression, and the Gestapo and the crimes they perpetrated. They tried and sentenced everybody they were able to put on trial. Even now, after nearly 40 years, they still continue to look for Nazi henchmen to put them on trial. What would you say if a major international campaign were conducted to seek Barbie's freedom, a major worldwide campaign saying that Barbie is an intellectual, a poet, a writer, a victim of great injustice, and that his human rights are being violated if he is condemned there? What would the French people say if we asked for his freedom? This is just an example. We are not going to ask for the freedom of the most insignificant member of the Gestapo. We are not going to ask for anything for the most insignificant collaborator because we feel a collaborator is a traitor who caused the death and blood of many.

If you ponder a little about your own experiences, you will realize that we are also touchy regarding the people who collaborated with Batista and perpetrated crimes. In addition, it was demonstrated that there was no such handicap. It was all a lie. It was a major propaganda ploy. Somebody paid for that propaganda. However, we... [leaves thought unfinished] It was the CIA and the U.S. imperialism. Surely it is them. There can be some people of good faith who at a certain moment might believe, and there are many people who are misled. But that is the truth. We have known that for a very long time. How much money does the CIA spend? It must be tens of billions of dollars. What do they use it for? For wire tapping equipment? That is not expensive. The cost of electronic equipment has gone down recently as a result of technology, microelectronics, and progress made with mass production. The CIA spends much money on publicity, very much. We know that better than the French. But that also has an impact in France. It does make a difference in France and in many other places.

What are the problems of human rights? None, he was sentenced on the evidence. We were generous because he deserved a more severe sentence. Now, France has solved his problem. Because of our consideration toward and friendship with France, because of the problem created, we decided that the world would not come to an end if we set this liberator, this poet free. We solved the problem. They [CIA and U.S. imperialism] conducted a major campaign and will always conduct campaigns. So long as they conduct major campaigns in defense of people who are counterrevolutionaries, people who have broken our laws, we will maintain a firm position. We are not frightened by such campaigns.

We have no human rights problems. They have disappeared here. No one is tortured here. No one is murdered here. In 25 years of revolution, despite the difficulties and dangers we have confronted, there has never been anyone tortured or murdered in our country. The enemy might say differently, but it is not true, and that is the truth. Some day when honest historians analyze these 25 years of revolution, it will be demonstrated that perhaps this is the only revolution which never broke the law.

We have laws that punish because we have to defend ourselves. But it will be demonstrated that we were not repressive, that we were not criminals, that we were not torturers, and that not a single person has disappeared in our country, not a single one. There is not a single case of torture in our country. The day when honest historians review and investigate all this, the truth of all this will be demonstrated. One should ask: How many revolutions have had the cool head and moderation that our revolution has shown, despite being under threat of death by imperialism for over 25 years.

Our moral values are very strong. We have the masses to defend us and support us, masses which struggle against espionage, against sabotage. Whenever someone is arrested, we know more than they do. We probably know that they met on 3 January at a house whose address they do not even know, not even the time or with whom they met. But we do know because among those meeting there we have someone who defends the revolution. We know the time and place better than he because he cannot remember. We always have that evidence. They have no moral values. Let us not say that the Cuban counterrevolutionaries are fanatics because, in reality, they are mercenaries.

The CIA does not conduct any task based on recruiting sympathizers. We know that the CIA does everything based on cash. We have great experience in that. They pay salaries, some $5,000, $10,000, $50,000. After all, they make it appear that any felony, any lie, any dirty business was perpetrated by someone else. Everything the CIA does is based on cash.

We can say we have never paid a penny to anyone. The people's cooperation is spontaneous. Throughout the world, those who cooperate with us do it based on ideals, principles. We have never spent a penny on that, which is the great difference. That is why we have been able to resist despite all the science and technology that the CIA, the Pentagon, and the United States have. The fact that we are 90 miles away from their coastline and they have not been able to crush us and will not be able to crush us demonstrates that difference.

We are sure that a nation determined to defend itself cannot be crushed, just as the Spanish and French were not. I ask you: What would have happened in France? Or what happened in France after the occupation, after the betrayal, after the surrender of the country? The people were unarmed, but the following day the struggle began, resistance grew. There is no other way. Now I ask you a question: If there had been no Normandy invasion, would you have continued under Nazi domination without struggling? If there had been no war -- a decisive factor in the defeat of Nazism -- the invasion of the USSR by Hitler, would Europe have accepted Nazi domination for centuries? How long would the Nazi domination, the Nazi slavery in Europe, the Nazi racism, the extermination of human beings because of racial and political reasons have lasted? Would Europe have resisted that?

Let us suppose that no army would have participated in the war -- would the Nazi domination have survived? You know that the answer is no. We also know that U.S. domination by any means would not survive, not even if it invaded and occupied our country. We are sure of that. What has defended us? No army has defended us. We have defended ourselves, and we will defend ourselves.

Nevertheless, we are conscious of our strength. There are technical means to neutralize this or that weapon but there are no technical means to neutralize a fighting nation. There is Vietnam, to cite an example. There are millions of us ready to defend the country and the revolution. Why? Because there is moral strength that can only be defended with moral strength, with political strength, with ideology, with profound conviction.

I am not trying to convert others to our convictions. We believe in our convictions and defend them with all our strength. I believe we are invulnerable. We do not frighten. Of course, it is lamentable that the U.S. Government feels that our statements are a result of its policy of force. On that path they will reach a point when they will see they are absolutely wrong. Revolutionaries do not give up or surrender when faced with a policy of force.

I have to go to bid farewell to my son if you do not want to harm my relations as a father. [Castro gets up and begins walking away] That problem has not been taken up yet. It is not imminent.

[Journalist] Could I ask you a question? It is an important question.

[Castro] All chiefs of state are the same. We never say one is more important than another. What do you work for daily? [Castro does not stop for the question]

REAGAN SAID TO RESUME 'ATTACK' IN TAMPA SPEECH

FL131348 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Once again, the President of the United States has used the alleged Soviet-Cuban threat to Central America as a pretext for continuing his policy of increasing military interference in the isthmus.

Reagan resumed the attack under this pretext despite the fact that it is not shared by any responsible politician in the Americas and that the Contadora Group and many governments have rejected it.

For them, the cause of the people's rebellion in Central America is not a supposed Soviet-Cuban intervention, but rather the conditions of oppression and social and economic injustice which have prevailed there for more than a century.

Ronald Reagan spoke at the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in Tampa, Florida as part of his campaign to attract Spanish-speaking voters in the United States and his efforts to justify that country's growing military participation in Central America.

Further Report

PA142359 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] In another furiously anticommunist speech, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has reaffirmed his determination to continue his current interventionist policy in Central America. He said that its purpose will be to defend Western democracy against what he called the challenge from a distant totalitarian power, a clear reference to the USSR.

Reagan said: We will very clearly pay for not fulfilling our current responsibilities. The U.S. President was addressing the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce convention in Tampa. He reiterated there that the aid given by the United States to its Central American friends is necessary to preserve the power of private enterprise.

He also said that the aid is being used to uproot a foreign philosophy from the continent that has brought tyranny and poverty to those places in which it has been established.

In Reagan's opinion, there is no better example of that fact than Cuba, whose government has betrayed its people. In a statement described by the press as outrageous, he said that there is no liberty or material goods in Cuba, but there is a great deal of repression.

In the opinion of political observers of the area, Reagan's statements reveal the U.S. rejection of the negotiation proposals made by the Contradora Group and other Latin American countries' to find peaceful solutions to the Central American crisis.

OPENING OF REAGAN - DE LA MADRID MEETING NOTED

PA150151 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 83

[Text] Ronald Reagan and Miguel de la Madrid, the presidents of the United States and Mexico, have begun their meeting in the Mexican city of La Paz amid strict security measures.

Manuel Alfonso, a spokesman for the Mexican president, said that the two presidents will discuss bilateral relations and denied that the Central America issue is the main point of the meeting.

Reagan arrived at La Paz, in the state of Baja California, accompanied by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. According to his schedule, Reagan will remain in Mexican territory for 7 and 1/2 hours. There will be no ceremony and Reagan will not be in touch with the Mexican people. He will be the object of strict security measures to satisfy demands from White House security services.

Mexican labor and peasant leaders, along with state governors, have declared their support for the proposals that the Mexican president will make to his U.S. counterpart during their meeting in La Paz today.

The dailies EXCELSIOR, EL SOL DE MEXICO, EL UNIVERSAL, and UNOMASUNO have said the De la Madrid will not ask the United States for gifts or generous help and that he will defend Mexico's interests over all else.

UNOMASUNO notes that Mexico, in contrast to the United States' blind fear and unending interventionism, has firmly upheld a policy of peace and accord based on the self-determination of the Central American people, respect for sovereignty, and the defense of legitimate demands for change in the area.

The National Coordination Board of Support for Nicaragua and the Forum of Solidarity With the Salvadoran Revolution have called for meetings to reject Ronald Reagan's presence in Mexico.

GRANMA SAYS U.S. PREPARED GUATEMALAN COUP

PA132321 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0215 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Havana, 12 Aug (EFE) -- The newspaper GRANMA carries an article today accusing the United States of "spending 2 months preparing the military coup that brought General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores to power."

This is the first commentary to appear in the newspaper, the voice of the Cuban communists, on the coup in Guatemala. It says that "a U.S. military officer personally led the 8 August coup."

According to the article, "Washington, moving its pawns about in complete freedom, ordered that Rios Montt be overthrown by an even more unconditional U.S. puppet." The GRANMA article says that "it is obvious that the military coup in Guatemala is an essential part of Reagan's strategy for Central America in his not-so-secret war to destabilize the Sandinist revolution."

GRANMA adds that "the absolute control exercised by Washington over Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala confirms that Yankee interventionist policy in Central America."

The paper also says that the United States has not been able to conceal the fact that only 48 hours before the coup, the new Guatemala military dictator met with U.S. General Paul Gorman, commander of the U.S. Southern Command, and with other U.S. officials in Tegucigalpa aboard the aircraft carrier Ranger. [as received]

OUR AMERICAN CITES 'INCREASING U.S. INTERFERENCE'

PA121945 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 11 Aug 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] As political observers and the media almost the world over have noted, U.S. interference in Central America and the Caribbean has absorbed a great deal of the U.S. politiians' attention. Not a single day goes by without several authorized U.S. Government officials -- who have never been refuted -- issuing threats against Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada, and against the patriots in El Salvador and Guatemala. The grave aspect, however, is that these threats are not mere words, but are accompanied by specific actions. The United States apparently plans to do the same thing in Central America and the Caribbean that it did in Vietnam and which, with total disregard for world public opinion and in collusion with Israel, it did last year against Lebanon and the Palestinian people.

In the U.S. Government's reactionary and colonialist view, the long-suffering Central American peoples' patriotic struggle has no reason for being and should be crushed. To this end, it maintains terrorist governments in power in both El Salvador and Guatemala. Using the weapons with which the United States abundantly supplies them, these governments practice a genocidal policy against the defenseless civilian population. This warmongering strategy by imperialism takes various forms, any of which entails a threat to international peace and stability. Washington harasses, provokes, commits acts of aggression against, and attacks the Central American and Caribbean peoples politically, economically, and militarily while shamelessly charging that little Grenada is a threat to U.S. security and slandering Nicaragua, against whose people and revolution it carries out all sorts of dirty maneuvers.

World attention these days is centered on Nicaragua, which has been virtually blockaded by a U.S. fleet stationed in central Pacific waters off the Nicaraguan coast, and which is being threatened with an attack from neighboring Honduras, where thousands of former Somozist guardsmen backed by Honduran soldiers plan to invade Sandinist soil. Intense propaganda seeks to conceal all these war-oriented preparations, presenting the United States and these counterrevolutionary groups as forces interested in peace and as conscientious fighters for democracy. Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, the director of the so-called Nicaraguan Democratic Force, recently requested a meeting with Richard Stone, the U.S. presidential envoy in Central America, to search for what he described as a negotiated solution of the Nicaraguan conflict.

The Nicaraguan Revolution Government has reiterated that it will never negotiate with the counterrevolutionaries, who do not represent anyone, and who, in carrying out their criminal actions against the Sandinist revolution, count only on U.S. and Honduran support. The publicity campaign about the alleged representativity of the Nicaraguan counterrevolution, however, has been and continues to be widely promoted by the media at the service of imperialism, which echo each and every one of the Somozist leaders, presenting them as patriots.

One of the msot reactionary counterrevolutionary chiefs, Edgardo Chamorro, is habitually found in the capitalist news agencies' offices. Last week, a statement by Chamorro was widely disseminated in which he said that the Latin American states should invoke the discredited Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, in order to launch a crusade against the Sandinist revolution. With this propaganda, the United States seeks to deceive public opinion and distort reality. However, the truth is that none of its obscure plans will succeed and, in the end, it will once again be defeated by the people's will.

OUR AMERICA ON POSSIBLE COUP IN EL SALVADOR

PA131345 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 12 Aug 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The real motives for the coup that toppled Guatemalan dictator Efrain Rios Montt on Monday have been clearly revealed only a few days later. Rios Montt did not suit the U.S. Administration, which set in motion a conspiracy to eject him from power and enthrone someone more suitable to Washington's vast plans for Central America.

It is said that the planners of the coup shuffled several names around until they found a suitable one, namely, General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, a man described as tough and radical in the gallows language of the conspirators.

Central American media, and even U.S. media, comment that the shifting of generals in Guatemala is part of Washington's Central American policy and is another indication of a timetable for escalating the U.S. military presence in the region.

Efrain Rios Montt, who a few months ago was praised by President Reagan as a sincere democrat, had lost all of his prestige -- not only in Guatemala and within the oligarchic clique that rules the country, but also in the eyes of the U.S. Congress and public. The recent contacts between new Guatemalan dictator Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores and ranking U.S. officials, and the reported U.S. friendliness with the implementator of the coup, according to U.S. news media, are clear evidence that Monday's barracks coup is part of a broader, regional strategy.

As a matter of fact, the episode practically coincided with rumors of the cancellation of the scheduled electoral farce in El Salvador, and with a violent struggle between Salvadoran rightist and extreme rightist factions.

The media maintain that a plan is in progress to change the current Salvadoran regime through a military coup that would eliminate certain ambiguities in official policy, particularly any attempt at returning to a reform plan.

Guatemala's coup and the one planned for El Salvador are tied to the shift in the U.S. Administration's Central American policy, which had its clearest manifestation in the replacement of Deane Hinton, the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, and of Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs. Both favored implementation of reform.

The White House and Reagan, by shifting the gears of political and military decision-making toward Central America, have rejected outright the alternative of reform and adopted a policy of crude military intervention and tight political control in El Salvador and Honduras.

In Honduras, Army chief General Gustavo Alvarez has slowly been strengthening his grip over the government, even bypassing its legislative body, as proven in the agreement he unilaterally approved for the establishment of military bases and training centers on Honduran territory under U.S. control.

The consolidation of Washington's power in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras is an essential part of its policy of direct intervention in the region.

At the same time, with evident interest in keeping these intentions secret, Reagan is trying to project the image of a man concerned about peace through his envoy Richard Stone's lightening visits to the region.

However, the United States cannot conceal its continued support for the Nicaraguan counterrevolution, which operates mainly from Honduras, nor its obvious intention of torpedoing the peace efforts of the Contadora Group and the Nicaraguan Government.

Placing Gen Oscar Humberto Victores in power is another hasty move by Washington, which is engaged in a race against time to try to recover its absolute mastery over Central America, in line with the theory held by Reagan and his advisers that history can be reversed by bombs and threats.

COMMUNIQUE SUPPORTS LIBYA OVER WARMONGERING U.S.

PA142352 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Aug 83

[Text] Cuba has reiterated its fraternal solidarity with the Libyan people in the face of the most recent aggressive maneuvers by the United States against that Arab nation. This is expressed in an official communique issued in Havana by Cuba's foreign minister.

The document recalls that ships from the U.S. 7th Fleet are violating Libya's territorial waters and that sophisticated espionage equipment is being sent to neighboring nations with the intention of frightening Libya.

The U.S. Government, the Cuban note states, makes its warmongering intent and its intervention in northern Africa and the Mediterranean increasingly evident daily. This is in line with the same imperialist attitude that characterizes Washington's activities in Central America and the Caribbean.

Cuba, the note concludes, firmly rejects this U.S. threat against Libya, which is creating a new focus of tension in a region that is already in danger because of U.S. intervention in conflicts in the Middle East, the Western Sahara, and Chad, and urges the international community to struggle to put an end to such aggressive actions.

Libya Supported at UN

PA142346 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Cuba has reiterated its active solidarity with Libya and has called upon the UN Security Council to come out in defense of that Arab country, which is being threatened by U.S. interventionist policy and actions.

During the Security Council meeting in which requests made by the Libyan and Chadian governments were being analyzed, Cuban delegate Nestor Garcia stressed that this organization has again met to discuss new White House threats and attacks on a nonaligned nation.

He reported that Washington violates Libya's airspace and territorial waters, deploys espionage forces and equipment on that nation's borders, and makes imperious statements intended to dictate rules of conduct to the Tripoli government.

The Cuban representative at the Security Council meeting noted the U.S. unwillingness to recognize Libyan sovereignty over the waters of the Syrian Gulf and cited the deployment of U.S. war vessels in Libyan territorial waters.

Nestor Garcia warned of the danger that this attitude represents, since Tripoli authorities have proclaimed their right to defend their sovereignty, and of the risk of a provocation by Washington followed by a large-scale U.S. attack.

He said that this U.S. policy and U.S. intervention in the Chadian problem have caused concern in the international community. Garcia expressed Cuba's absolute rejection of the U.S. attacks on Libya.

Radio on Situation

FL121315 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] The situation in Chad, along with the problems in Central America, currently occupy the front pages of the newspapers and receive primary coverage on radio and television -- and with good reason -- because what was feared for a long time is happening -- the conflict is being internationalized.

The United States, France, Zaire, Israel, Sudan, and Egypt are becoming more and more involved in the affair in support of the pro-imperialist regime of Hissein Habre, who, with the help of those countries, overthrew the government of Goukouni Weddeye.

The United States, fearing the fall of Habre's government and the push by the rebels headed by Weddeye, rashly sent two AWACS airplanes, an RC-35 [as heard], and eight F-15 fighters to Egypt a few days ago. They also sent two KC-10 tankers to Sudan. All of this was done with the intent of interfering in the Chadian affair.

President Reagan's invocation of the War Powers Act before the House and Senate to justify this action, which supposedly gives him the right to send combat-ready troops overseas, caused alarm and apprehension in Africa and the Middle East.

To the already complex situation created by the Reagan administration are added the large amounts of money supplied by Washington to Ndjamena, the sending of French military troops, and the direct participation of more than 2,000 soldiers from Zaire.

The problem becomes even more complicated when we consider the joint maneuvers the United States is carrying out with Egypt and the slanderous campaigns it is waging against Libyan authorities, whom it accuses of directly supporting the nationalist rebels.

This deployment of forces in and around Chad has as primary objectives preventing the defeat of Hissein Habre and, at the same time, exerting pressure on Libya to submit to Washington's dictates for the Middle East.

An eeror in calculation by the Yankee authorities could bring about a military confrontation with Libya, which would drag many Arab and African nations into the conflict. This would have incalculable consequences. If it happens, the abyss separating the African and Arab peoples from the United States would become totally impassable. It is to be hoped that common sense will prevail.

The warlike Yankees, who have instigated points of conflict everywhere, should realize that they are not the owners of the world.

The Chadian civil war, which is now 19 years old, should be resolved by the Chadians themselves, but as long as someone is stirring up the coals, there will be fire.

JAPANESE DIETMEN,PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLYMEN CONFER

FL121855 Havana Domestic Service Television in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] A delegation of Japanese congressmen paying a friendly visit to Cuba met today with leaders of the National Assembly of the People's Government in Havana. During the meeting, Ramiro del Rio, chief of the International Relations Department of the assembly, gave the visitors an explanation of the assembly's functions since it was established in 1976. The Diet, the Japanese congress, was also discussed.

The delegation of Japanese congressmen is visiting Cuba as part of a tour it is making of Central America and the Caribbean and is headed by Mrs (Takako Doi), a member of Japanese Socialist Party and president of the special commission on price problems in Japan.

FERNANDEZ HEADS DELEGATION TO CARACAS GAMES

FL131256 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] After innumerable controversies which threatened to suspend or postpone the Ninth Pan-American Games, the games will open tomorrow in Caracas, where a large Cuban group will participate.

Twenty-four hours before the opening of the sporting event, Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers, minister of education, and head of the Cuban delegation, arrived in the Venezuelan capital. Carlos Galvan Vila, president of INDER [National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation], is also a member of the delegation.

The Cuban leader was met at the Caracas airport by Venezuelan minister of Education Felipe Montilla and the head of the intelligence agency in Venezuela, Luis Alberto Machado.

BRAVO URGES DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL INDUSTRY

FL121520 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Flavio Bravo, in a speech before the Third Special Session of the third governing period of the People's Government Provincial Assembly of Cienfuegos, said that the development of local industry is important and will contribute to the self-financing of each municipality in the country. At the meeting, presided over by Bravo, a report was presented on activities planned to guarantee the rendering of accounts to the government next December.

In his speech, Flavio Bravo said that these activities should be stimulated on the local level much more than they are now. He also requested the consolidation of efforts in the construction of housing.

He emphasized that for the first time, discussions of economic plans are being carried out on the municipal and provincial levels -- like a conquest of the country -- which will help improve institutional organizations. Bravo added that in these local discussions, in which deputies to the National Assembly are participating, good initiatives are suggested which help to improve controls and produce instructions on how to collaborate with the Ministry of Communications in all of its activities.

In a speech, Minister of Communications Pedro Guelmes referred to advances made in his sector in recent years. He said that there are many accomplishments, but there are also deficiencies, on which all-out war should be declared.

SALVADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER MAKES 3-DAY VISIT

Advocates C.A. Meeting

PA122320 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] After arriving in Santo Domingo, Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena advocated a meeting of the five Central American countries to achieve pacification in the area. According to the Salvadoran minister, the Dominican Republic would be the best place to hold such a meeting.

Chavez Mena said he believes there is the possibility of a peaceful solution for Central America, and said that is why he submitted a peace program to the Contadora Group several days ago that contemplates the limitation of the arms race in Central America.

On an official 3-day visit to the Dominican Republic, the Salvadoran foreign minister was welcomed by Dominican Foreign Relations Secretary Jose Augusto Vega Imbert, who later received him at the Foreign Secretariat. A dinner was held in his honor, attended by a number of personalities.

After laying a wreath yesterday morning on the fatherland altar, where the bodies of the patricians [as heard] Duarte, Sanchez, and Mella rest, Chavez Mena said the Dominican Republic has set an example for the world, and particularly for Latin America, in that when the people decide they want democracy, they achieve democracy.

Regarding the elections in his country, the Salvadoran minister said that is no problem and represents no setback for the solution to El Salvador's domestic crisis. The delay is technical, but this is no obstacle to the democratic process that has begun in the country and that grows stronger every day.

As for the Guatemalan coup, Chavez Mena does not expect this to pose any problem in the search for a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis. We Salvadorans hope that Guatemala treads the democratic road and we hope that the country's domestic situation will not interfere with the search for a solution to the Central American crisis, Chavez Mena asserted.

The Salvadoran minister will meet this afternoon with Dominican Foreign Secretary Vega Imbert in a working session, and will be received by President of the Republic Salvador Jorge Blanco at 1800.

Joint Declaration Issued

PA131935 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0029 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, 12 Aug (EFE) -- Dominican Republic Foreign Minister Jose Augusto Vega Imbert and Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Sanchez Mena today expressed their conviction that Central America and the Caribbean must comprise a peace zone.

This statement is included in the text of a joint declaration which was revealed shortly before Chavez Mena returned to El Salvador after a 3-day official visit here.

The Dominican Republic's foreign minister reaffirmed to his Salvadoran counterpart the Dominican Government's willingness to contribute to a permanent dialogue for peace in Central America.

Likewise, they agreed in recognizing that the complex Central American crisis demands a permanent effort by all the countries interested in peace.

In addition to expressing their concern at the increasing deterioration of the Central American situation, they reiterated their support for the joint declaration issued by Ecuadorean President Oswaldo Hurtado and Dominican Republic President Salvador Jorge Blanco.

This declaration pointed out that the means for a peaceful solution to the conflicts must prevail in the search to achieve peace.

The two foreign ministers also expressed their decided support for the contacts being carried out by the Contadora Group, comprised of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama.

In addition, they expressed their solidarity with the Declaration of Cancun and termed it very appropriate to achieve a viable climate of peace that leads the parties in the conflict to a just and durable peace.

They also expressed their concern with the grave crisis which prevails in the world economy, above all in Latin America and the Caribbean.

For this, they agreed on the need to strengthen regional mechanisms of consultation, negotiation, and integration.

Chavez Mena and Vega Imbert reiterated their support for the Declaration of Santo Domingo, signed by personal representatives of the Latin American and Caribbean heads of state and governments. The document was signed during the recent SELA and ECLA meetings held in this capital.

They also expressed their support for the Latin American Economic Conference that will soon take place in Quito.

HAVANA REPORTS ARREST OF LEFTIST LEADERS

PA121835 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] The number of leftist militants and leaders arrested by the Dominican Republic national police in the past few days has risen to 42 with the arrest of 12 more people. Commenting on the arrests, Colonel Jose Rijo, police public relations director, said only that they are being interrogated on police matters.

Narciso Isa Conde, secretary general of the Dominican Communist Party, and Rafael Taveras, a leader of the United Left, have protested this repressive wave against the Dominican left.

BARBADOS

U.S. CARIBBEAN NAVAL EXERCISES CRITICIZED

FL111229 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 4 Aug 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Show of Military Might"]

[Excerpts] Gunboat diplomacy was the term used to describe the unsubtle show of armed might by world powers aimed at influencing the decisions of less powerful nations. That was before the emergence of diametrically opposed Eastern and Western power blocs dominated by the present superpowers -- the United States and the Soviet Union.

The show of force as a coercive lever was not as potentially dangerous then as now. Today there is the capability for destruction that is incalculable and the willingness to use that force seems ever just below the surface.

Hence the Caribbean Area and Latin America must eye anxiously United States military exercises in and around Central America -- one of the focal points of East-West power manipulation.

United States officials said that the aim of this exercise, and some 100 other major joint exercises staged by the United States and its friends every year, is to train soldiers, sailors, and airmen.

But there are other reasons as well, they add. While stopping short of labelling manoeuvres held near hostile countries as gunboat diplomacy or sabre-rattling, they concede that they do show enemies that the United States can easily project its military clout into areas considered vital.

Analysts say that exercises by the Central Command, four of which are set for this summer, are by their nature warnings to the Soviet Union.

The muscle-flexing intent of the exercises off Nicaragua and in Honduras became apparent in recent days. Normally such exercises are planned many months in advance, especially those involving ships, which have deployment schedules laid out as much as six months in advance.

But a senior U.S. defence official, briefing reporters on the exercises, while fairly firm on the number of troops to be used, said the actual units had not yet been chosen nor had many of the specific manoeuvres been set.

What emerges here is that the countries in the Caribbean area and Latin America are really pawns in the global power game and that they have little influence in what the outcome of that game will be. It also underscores the moral need for the United States -- if morality can be applied to a naked power play -- to deal fairly with the less powerful and less prosperous nations which surround it in this area, and whose survival depends in large measure on how she treats them.

DOMINICA

DEFICIT REPORTED IN 1983 FIRST QUARTER

FL112135 Bridgetown CANA in English 2115 GMT 11 Aug 83

[Peter Richards]

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Aug 11, CANA -- Dominica today reported a 12.5 million East Caribbean dollar trade deficit for the first three months of the year.

Between January and March, Dominica's domestic exports totalled 13.2 million dollars (one E.C. dollar; 37 cents U.S.) with imports valued at 25.7 million dollars.

For the government, trying to significantly reduce imports and to expand exports, the performance was better than that registered in the first quarter of 1982.

For the first three months of 1982, Dominica had a 23.3 million dollars trade deficit: imports totalled 33.0 million dollars and exports 9.7 million. Figures released by the government showed bananas topping the list of foreign exchange earners. Exports of bananas for the first three months of the year landed Dominica 5.4 million dollars, 98.9 per cent of this coming from Britain. Exports of soap brought in 3.6 million dollars; 2.5 million from Jamaica. The list of exports included galvanised sheets, soyabean and coconut oil, and grapefruit. Main imports included foodstuff, vehicles, petroleum and petroleum products, fertilizers, paper, paperboard, and similar products.

In the first quarter of this year, Dominica spent 1.8 million dollars on petroleum and petrolem products, 1.8 million on cereal and cereal preparations, 1.7 million of paper, paperboard and similar products, 1.5 million on vehicles, 1.4 million on meat and meat preparations, 1.3 million on fertilizers, 1.1 on dairy products and eggs, and 1.1 million on iron and steel imports.

Dominica has registered a series of annual trade deficits: 34.5 million dollars in 1979, 102.4 million in 1980, 82.3 million in 1981, 62.1 million in 1982.

Prime Minister and Finance Minister Eugenia Charles has said she is committed to reducing imports and increasing exports to improve the economy.

"...We will negotiate commitments for increased trade with those partners whose markets are of importance to us," Miss Charles said recently. Countries mentioned included Jamaica, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, and St Kitts-Nevis. According to Miss Charles, oil-rich Trinidad and Tobago is already committed to receiving more agricultural produce from Dominica. Representatives of both the public and private sectors there have signed contracts with Dominican exporters.

The prime minister has been trying to get Dominican businessmen to put themselves in a position from which they could make major inroads into the United States market now that President Reagan's multi-million dollar trade and aid package for the Caribbean and Central America -- the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) -- has been approved by the U.S. Congress. The CBI offers most products from basin countries a 12-year duty-free access to the U.S. market.

"Dominica, if it can gear up to take advantage of the protected and guaranteed access now being offered, can expect to increase its exports of lime oil, bay oil, and other goods which it now exports to the United States," an official statement here noted.

Dominica's 1983 first quarter domestic exports are up by 36.3 per cent on those for the corresponding period last year. Imports for January-March this year are down 22.0 per cent on the figures for the first quarter of last year. Exports of bananas have increased by 32.1 per cent, and exports of plantains, oranges, lime juice, coconut and soyabean, and coconut oil were also up. But falling were exports of grapefruit and toilet soaps.

Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries bought 6.7 million dollars worth of goods from Dominica in the first three months of this year, while Dominica's imports from its regional neighbour were valued at 7.1 million dollars.

PNC ACCUSSES U.S. OF ECONOMIC AGGRESSION

FL131546 Bridgetown CANA in English 1446 GMT 13 Aug 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Aug. 13, CANA -- NEW NATION, official organ of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC), here has accused the United States Government of economic aggression and destabilisation against Guyana. "In the face of all the rhetoric about democracy, human rights and the rights of nations, the Reagan administration is bent on preventing Guyana from enjoying the right to self-determination," the paper said in a front-page editorial. "The Guyana Government has repeatedly said that this country is determined to pursue a socialist course. Apparently, the Reagan administration has opposing views," the NEW NATION said.

The editorial followed Washington's cancellation of two development loans for Guyana totalling 22.8 million dollars (U.S.) and a U.S. threat to block another for 52 million dollars (U.S.) from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The paper said just over a year ago, the administration sought to block a 60 million dollar (one Guy dollar; 33 cents U.S.) loan for Guyana's rice industry, knowing fully well that rice was one of this country's main agricultural crops. It said the loan was later granted but only after Guyana had protested in various forums.

"The U.S. action was later followed by the covert plan to instigate civil unrest in Guyana when the Reagan administration initiated the decision to cease the credit of wheat to Guyana," the paper said. According to the NEW NATION, political observers in Guyana saw this as a deliberate attempt on the part of the United States to foment unrest, since the authorities there felt that Guyanese would have taken to the streets in violent demonstrations.

The paper said the intention "of this present course of action is no different from that of the wheat decision." "When one considers that representatives from the Inter-National Monetary Fund (IMF) had called on the Guyana Government to "free up" the rice industry while maintaining an interest in securing the highest possible price for the private millers on the overseas market, one can understand the reason behind the denial of these loans," the NEW NATION said.

It said it was nothing new that Guyana had been singled out for destabilisation. "What is evident is that the U.S. should not now talk about the right to self-determination and democracy," the NEW NATION said.

VICE PRESIDENT GREEN SCORES U.S. EMBASSY ACTION

FL131213 Bridgetown CANA in English 1745 GMT 12 Aug 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Aug 12, CANA -- Guyana has accused the U.S. Embassy here of more easily granting visas to skilled Guyanese wishing to emigrate to the U.S. than to government officials needing to travel on official business. Vice President Hamilton Green made the comment here as he discussed with newsmen the embassy's recent refusal of a visa to government Economic Planner Clive Roopchand, who was to attend an important meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington.

"Roopchand has been to the United States on several occasions. He is one of our loyal Guyanese who we have no doubt will return. And in fact on that issue, there are persons who have been given visas with greater alacrity as part of the (U.S.) encouragement to lure people away with skills," the vice president told the press. "If they felt Roopchand will go and stay, maybe he would get a visa within the hour," Green said. Roopchand was to attend an IDB meeting that was to discuss a 52 million dollar (U.S.) development loan to Guyana which Washington had earlier indicated it would seek to block.